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(54) METHODS FOR IDENTIFYING A TARGET SITE OF A CAS9 NUCLEASE

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None

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(57)ABSTRACT

Some aspects of this disclosure provide strategies, methods, and reagents for determining nuclease target site preferences and specificity of site-specific endonucleases. Some methods provided herein utilize a novel "one-cut" strategy for screening a library of concatemers comprising repeat units of candidate nuclease target sites and constant insert regions to identify library members that can been cut by a nuclease of interest via sequencing of an intact target site adjacent and identical to a cut target site.

24 Claims, 55 Drawing Sheets

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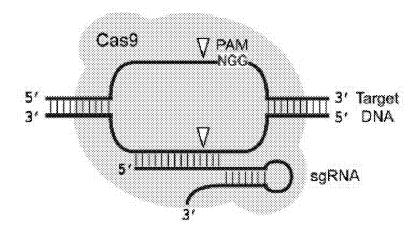


FIG. 1A

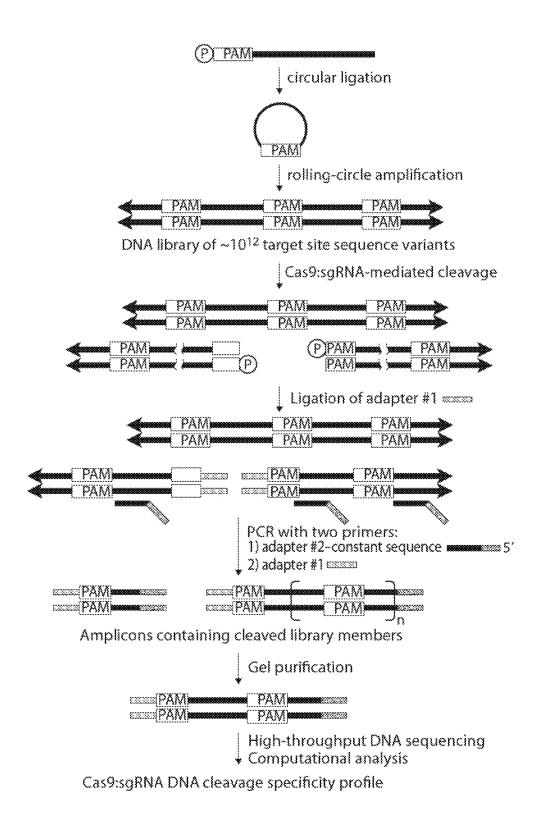
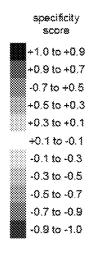


FIG. 1B



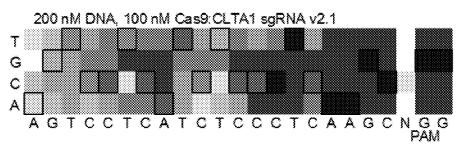


FIG. 2A

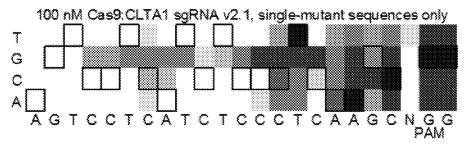


FIG. 2B

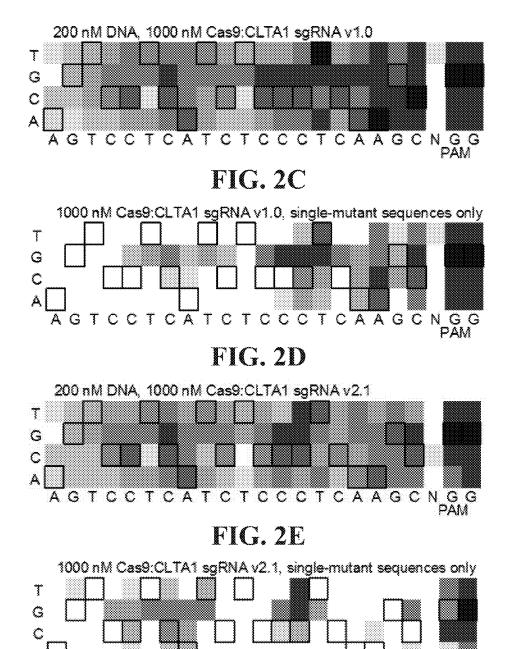


FIG. 2F

AGTCCTCATCTCCCTCAAGCNGG PAM

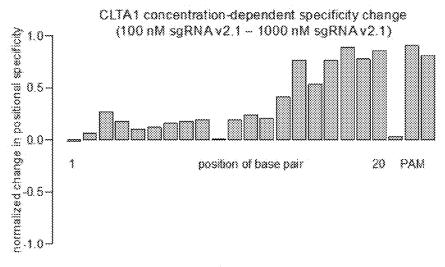


FIG. 2G

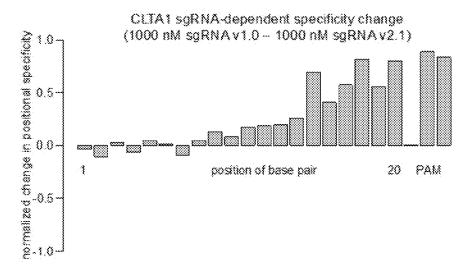
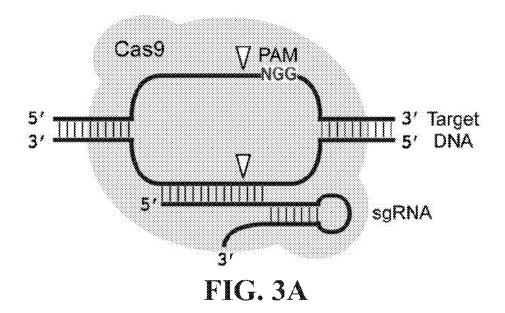
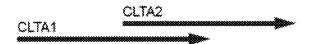


FIG. 2H





- 5'-ATGTCTCCGCATGCGCTCAGTCCTCATCTCCCTCAAGCAGGCCCCGC-3'
- 3'-TACAGAGGGCGTACGCGAGTCAGGAGTAGAGGGAGTTCGTCCGGGGCG-5'
- 5'-TGGTGCACTGAAGAGCCACCCTGTGGAAACACTACATCTGCAATATCT-3'
- ${\tt 3'-ACCACGTGACTTCTCGGTGGGACACCTTTGTGATGTAGACGTTATAGA-5'}$

CLTA4

CLTA3

FIG. 3B

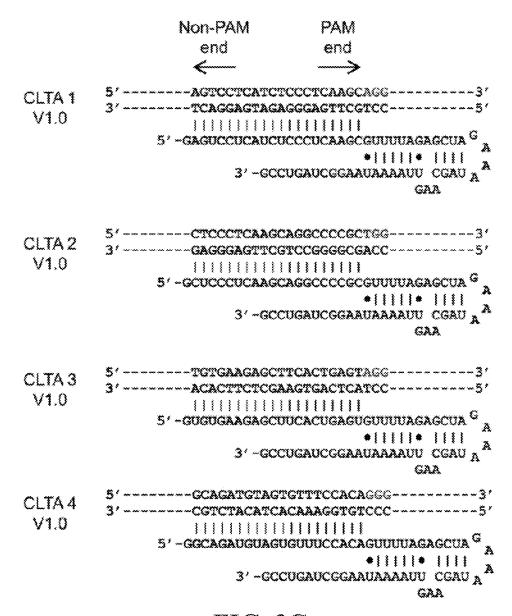


FIG. 3C

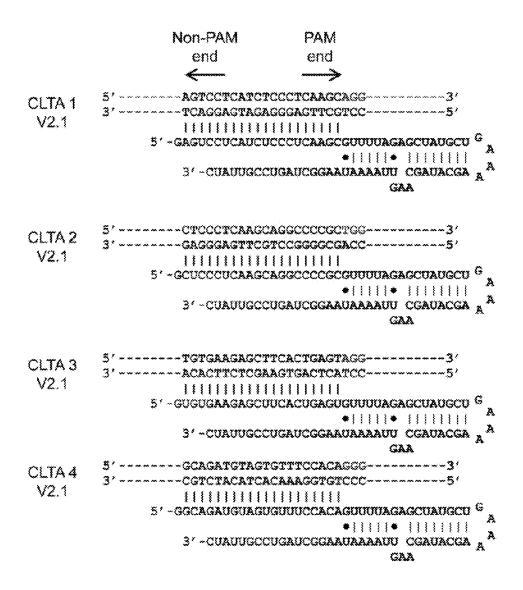


FIG. 3D

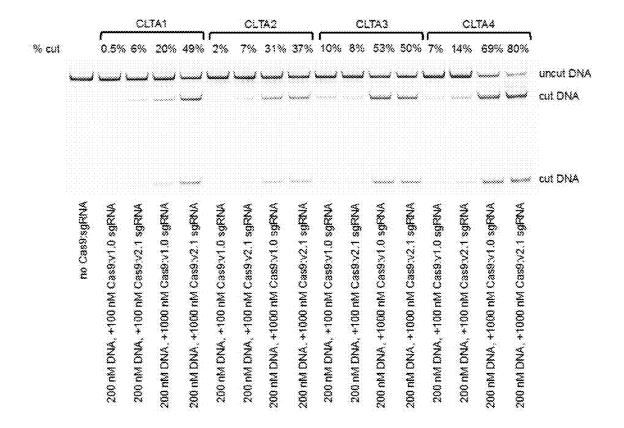
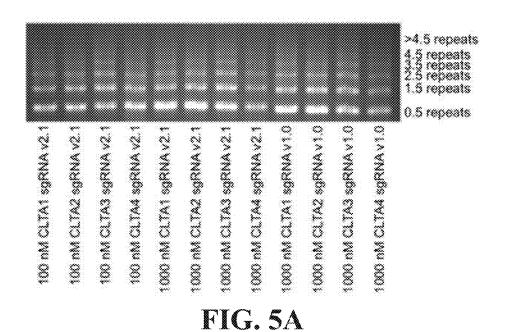
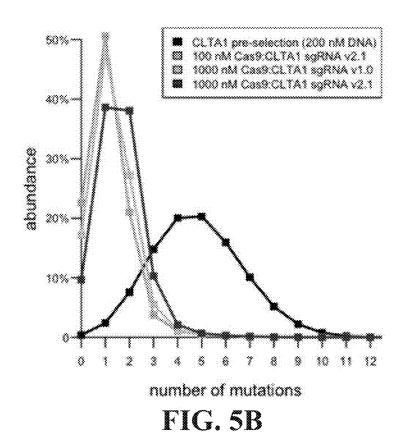


FIG. 4





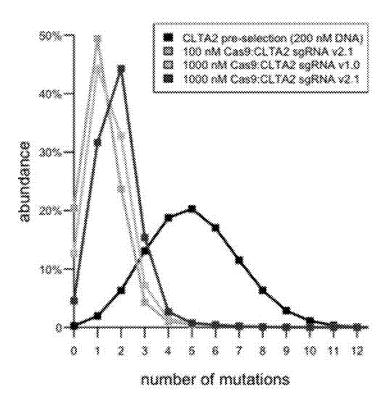


FIG. 5C

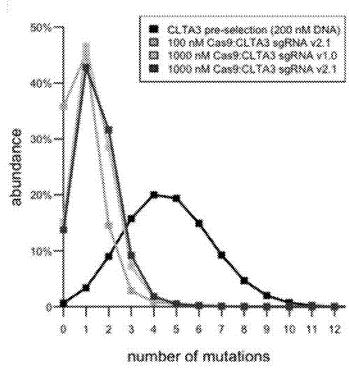


FIG. 5D

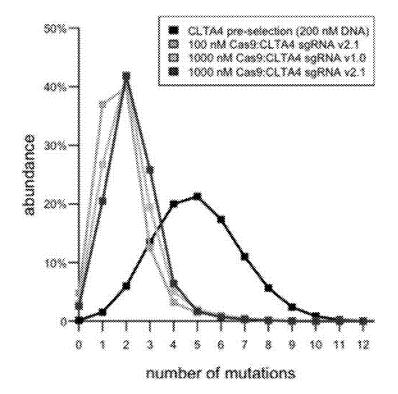
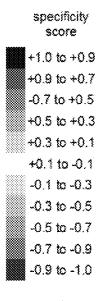


FIG. 5E



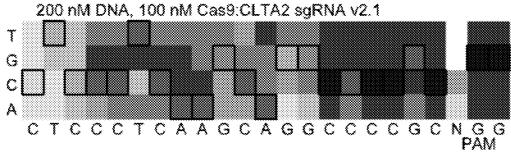


FIG. 6A

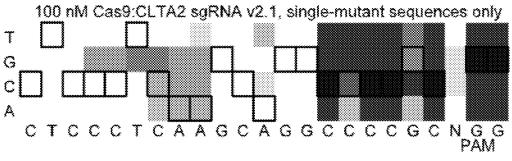


FIG. 6B

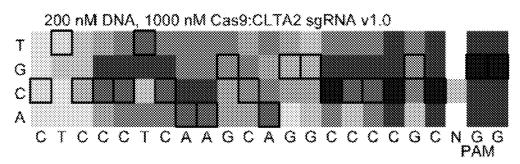


FIG. 6C

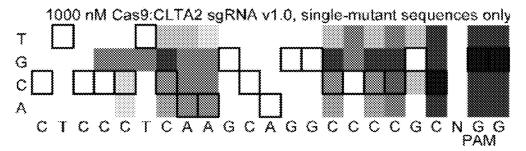


FIG. 6D

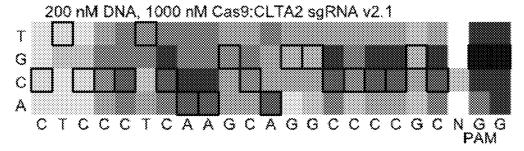


FIG. 6E

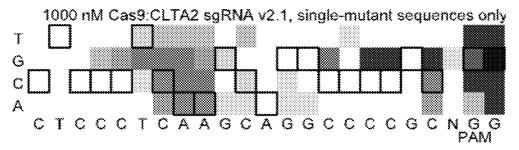
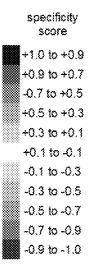


FIG. 6F



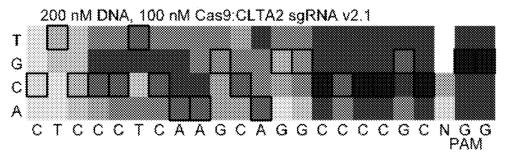


FIG. 7A

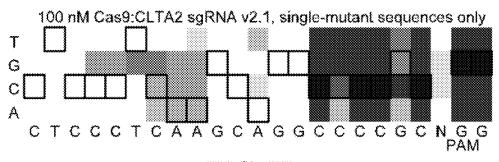
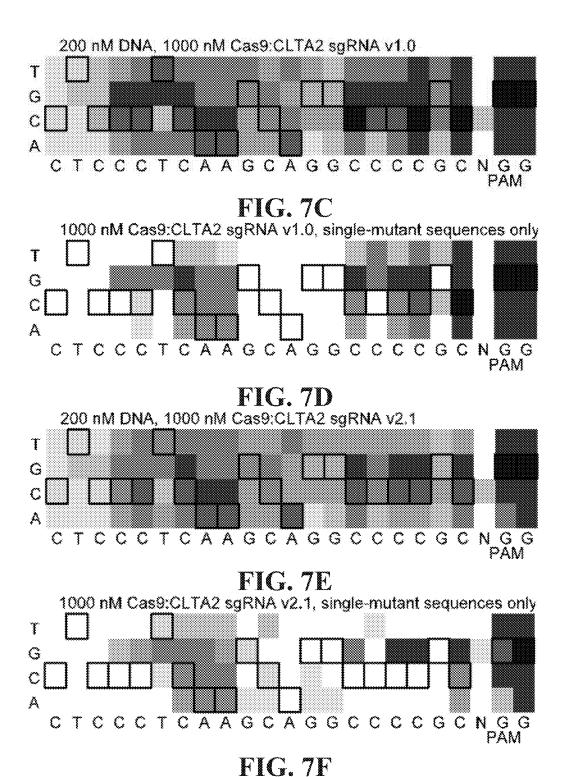
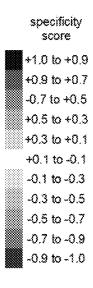


FIG. 7B





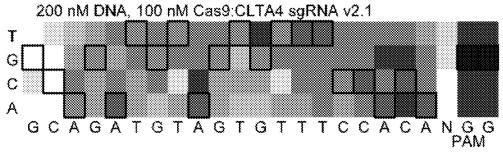


FIG. 8A

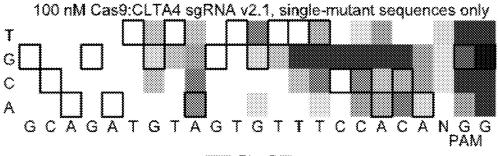
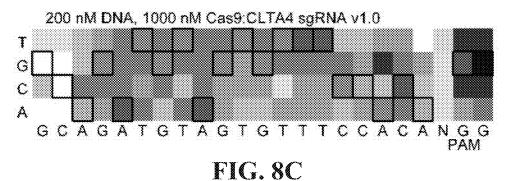
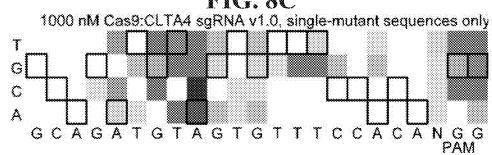
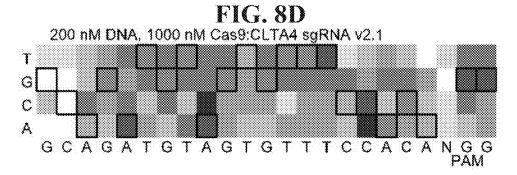


FIG. 8B







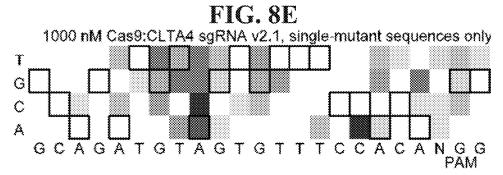


FIG. 8F

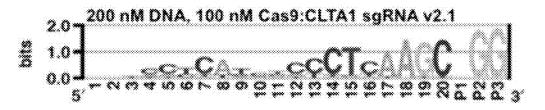


FIG. 9A

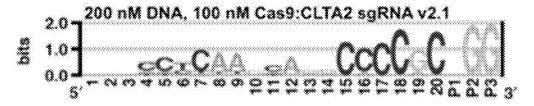


FIG. 9B

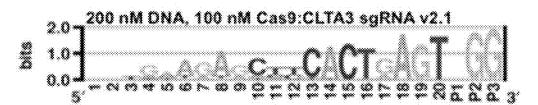


FIG. 9C

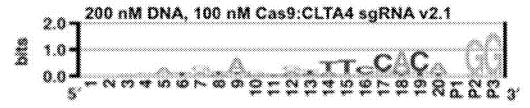
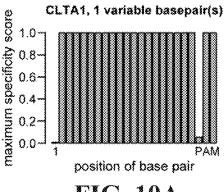


FIG. 9D



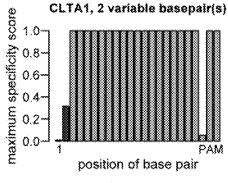
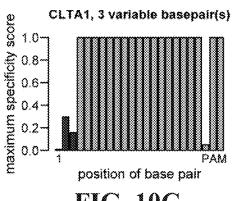


FIG. 10A

FIG. 10B



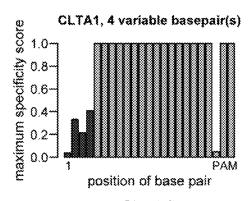
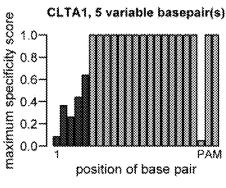


FIG. 10C

FIG. 10D



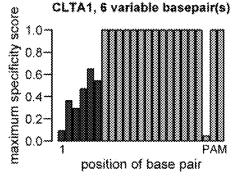


FIG. 10E

FIG. 10F

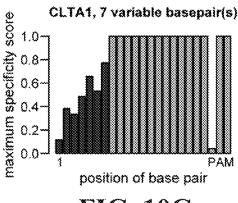


FIG. 10G

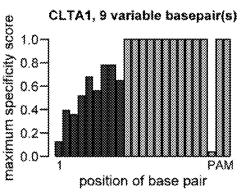
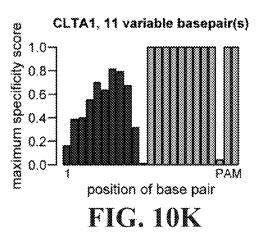


FIG. 10I



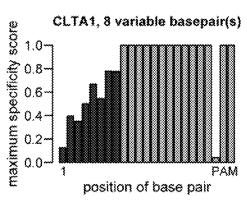


FIG. 10H

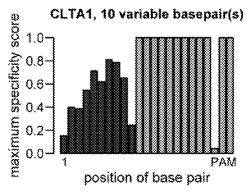


FIG. 10J

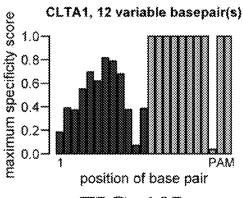
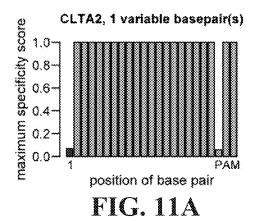
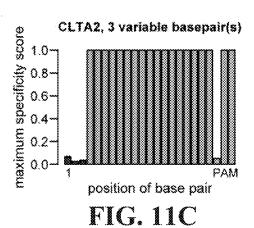
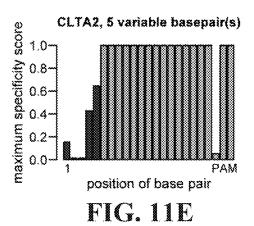
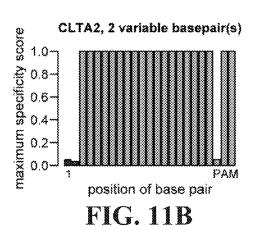


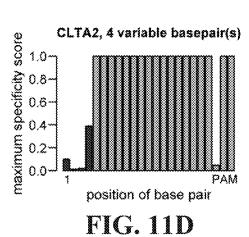
FIG. 10L

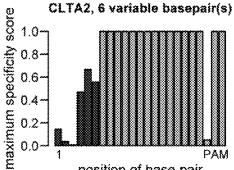




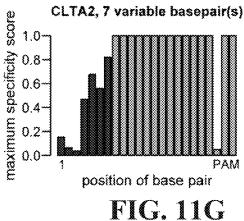








position of base pair FIG. 11F



CLTA2, 8 variable basepair(s)

1.0

0.8

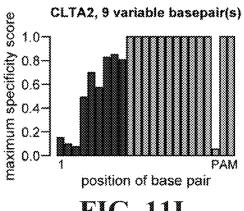
0.6

0.2

0.0

1 position of base pair

G FIG. 11H



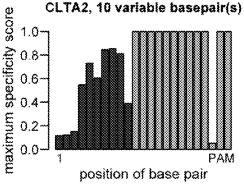
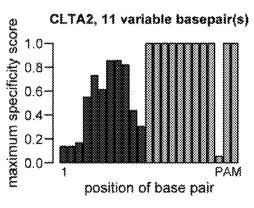


FIG. 111 FIG. 11J



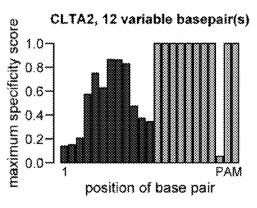


FIG. 11K FIG. 11L

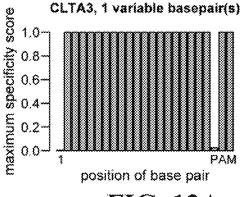


FIG. 12A

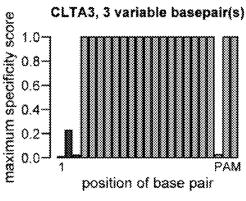


FIG. 12C

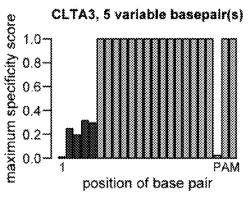


FIG. 12E

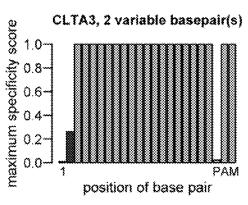


FIG. 12B

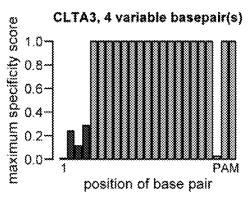


FIG. 12D

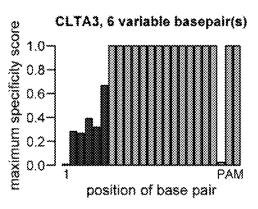


FIG. 12F

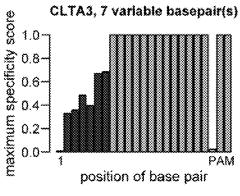


FIG. 12G

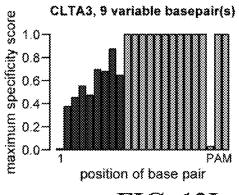


FIG. 12I

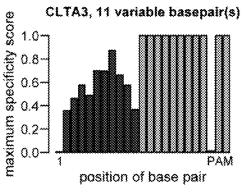


FIG. 12K

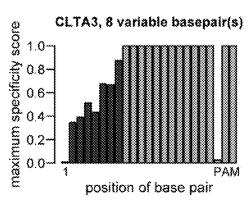


FIG. 12H

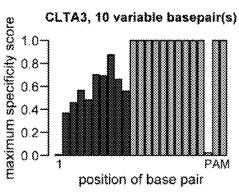


FIG. 12J

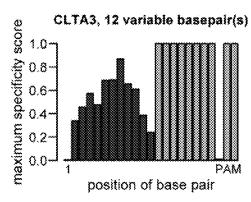


FIG. 12L

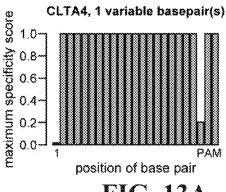


FIG. 13A

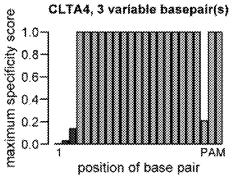


FIG. 13C

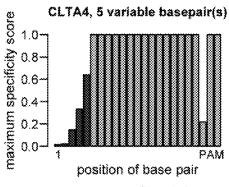


FIG. 13E

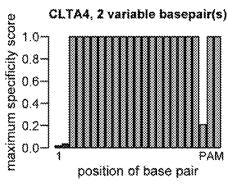


FIG. 13B

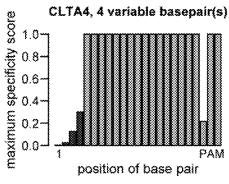


FIG. 13D

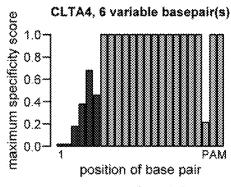


FIG. 13F

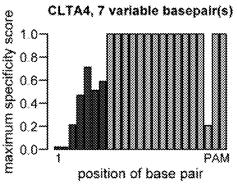


FIG. 13G

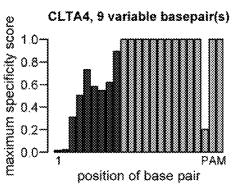


FIG. 13I

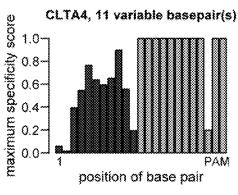


FIG. 13K

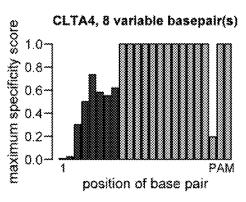


FIG. 13H

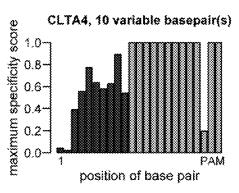


FIG. 13J

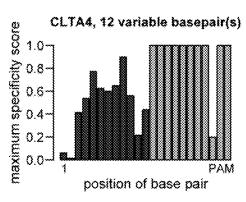


FIG. 13L

CLTA1, 1 variable basepair(s)

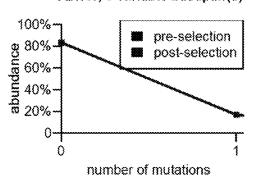


FIG. 14A

CLTA1, 3 variable basepair(s)

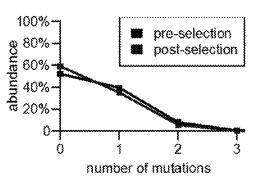


FIG. 14C

CLTA1, 5 variable basepair(s)

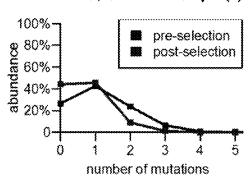


FIG. 14E

CLTA1, 2 variable basepair(s)

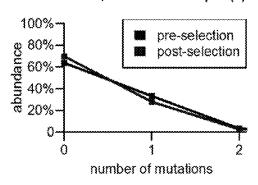


FIG. 14B

CLTA1, 4 variable basepair(s)

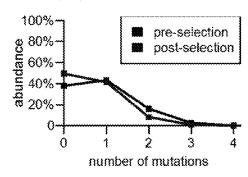


FIG. 14D

CLTA1, 6 variable basepair(s)

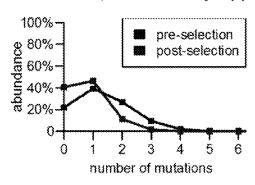


FIG. 14F

CLTA1, 7 variable basepair(s)

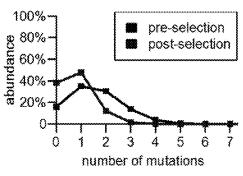


FIG. 14G

CLTA1, 9 variable basepair(s)

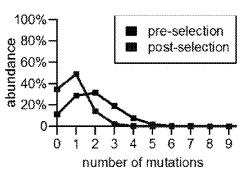


FIG. 14I

CLTA1, 11 variable basepair(s)

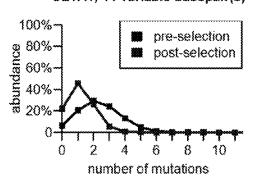


FIG. 14K

CLTA1, 8 variable basepair(s)

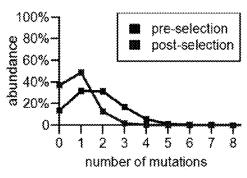


FIG. 14H

CLTA1, 10 variable basepair(s)

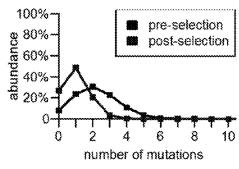


FIG. 14J

CLTA1, 12 variable basepair(s)

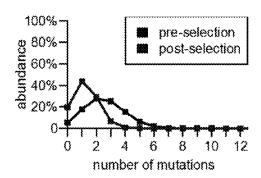


FIG. 14L

CLTA2, 1 variable basepair(s)

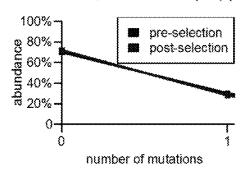


FIG. 15A

CLTA2, 3 variable basepair(s)

pre-selection post-selection

0

0

FIG. 15C

CLTA2, 5 variable basepair(s)

number of mutations

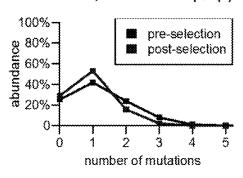


FIG. 15E

CLTA2, 2 variable basepair(s)

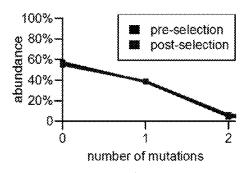


FIG. 15B

CLTA2, 4 variable basepair(s)

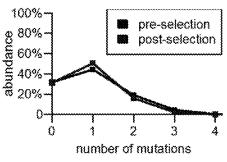


FIG. 15D

CLTA2, 6 variable basepair(s)

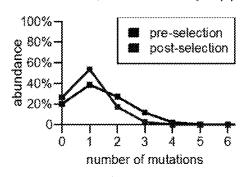


FIG. 15F

CLTA2, 7 variable basepair(s)

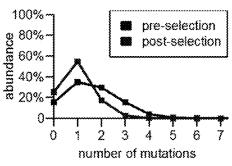


FIG. 15G

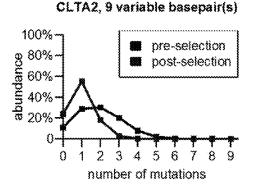


FIG. 15I

CLTA2, 11 variable basepair(s)

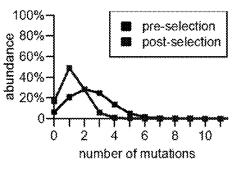


FIG. 15K

CLTA2, 8 variable basepair(s)

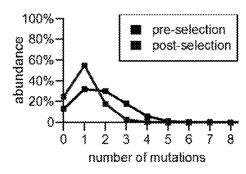


FIG. 15H

CLTA2, 10 variable basepair(s)

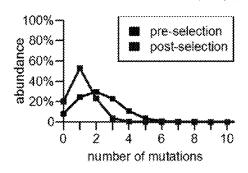


FIG. 15J

CLTA2, 12 variable basepair(s)

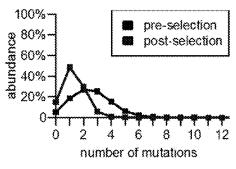


FIG. 15L

CLTA3, 1 variable basepair(s)

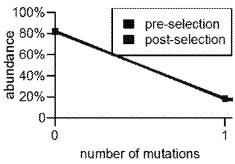


FIG. 16A

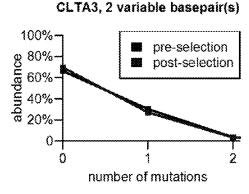


FIG. 16B

CLTA3, 3 variable basepair(s)

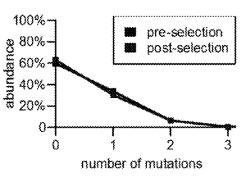


FIG. 16C

CLTA3, 4 variable basepair(s)

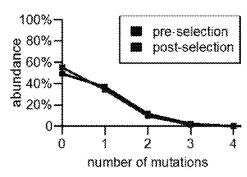


FIG. 16D

CLTA3, 5 variable basepair(s)

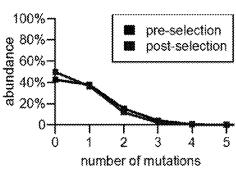


FIG. 16E

CLTA3, 6 variable basepair(s)

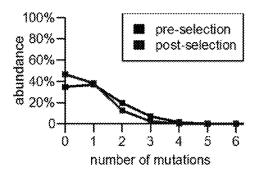


FIG. 16F

CLTA3, 7 variable basepair(s)

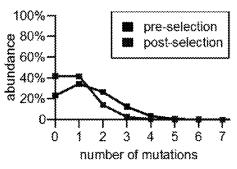


FIG. 16G

CLTA3, 8 variable basepair(s)

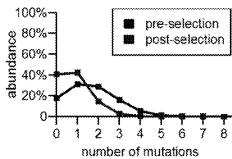


FIG. 16H

CLTA3, 9 variable basepair(s)

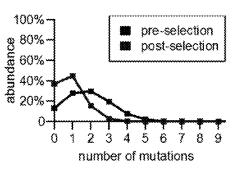


FIG. 16I

CLTA3, 10 variable basepair(s)

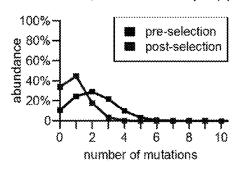


FIG. 16J

CLTA3, 11 variable basepair(s)

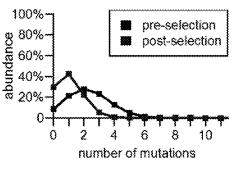


FIG. 16K

CLTA3, 12 variable basepair(s)

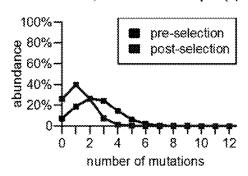


FIG. 16L

CLTA4, 1 variable basepair(s)

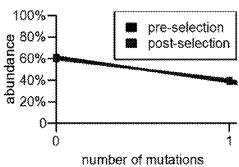


FIG. 17A

, , ,

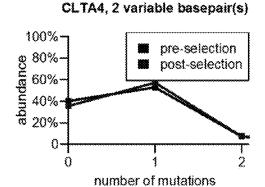


FIG. 17B

CLTA4, 3 variable basepair(s)

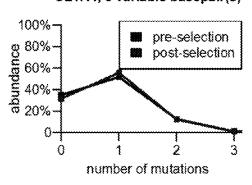


FIG. 17C

CLTA4, 4 variable basepair(s)

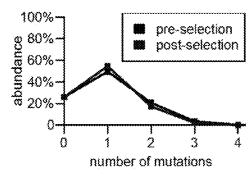


FIG. 17D

CLTA4, 5 variable basepair(s)

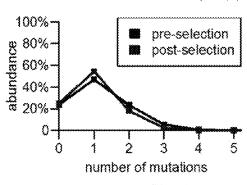


FIG. 17E

CLTA4, 6 variable basepair(s)

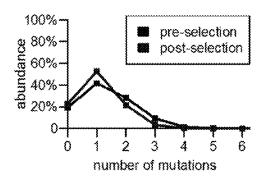


FIG. 17F

CLTA4, 7 variable basepair(s)

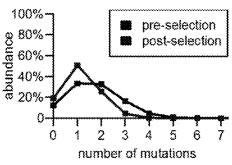


FIG. 17G

Orina, i sananie nasebanisi

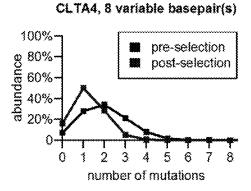


FIG. 17H

CLTA4, 9 variable basepair(s)

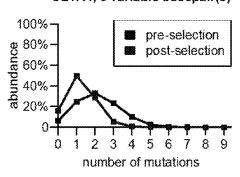


FIG. 17I

CLTA4, 10 variable basepair(s)

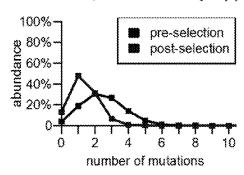


FIG. 17J

CLTA4, 11 variable basepair(s)

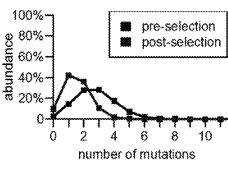


FIG. 17K

CLTA4, 12 variable basepair(s)

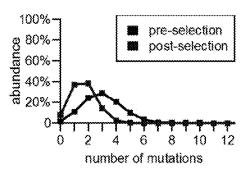
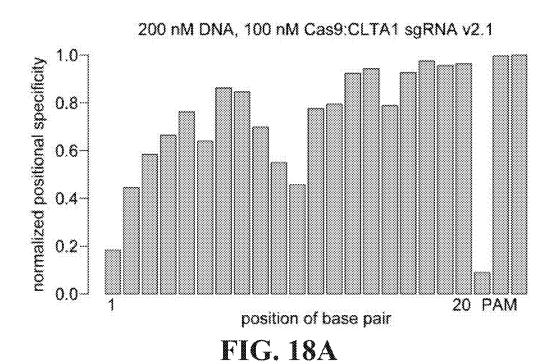


FIG. 17L



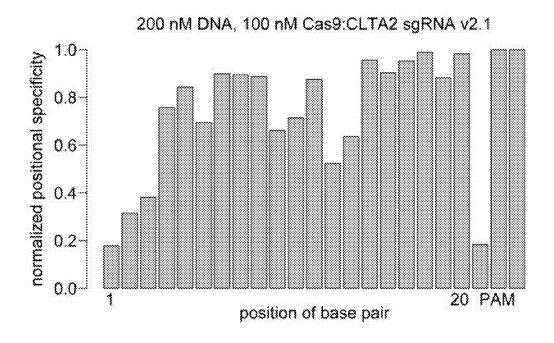
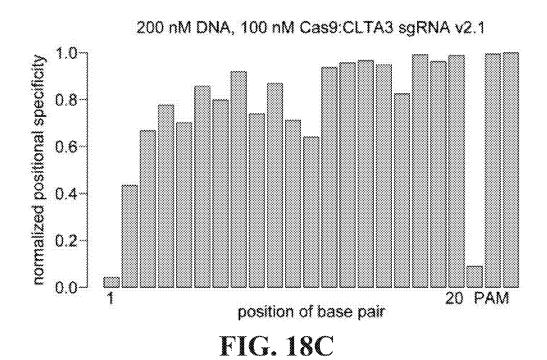


FIG. 18B



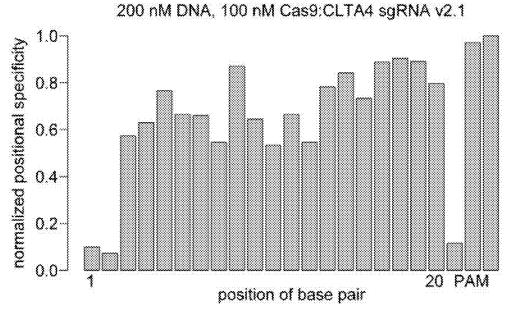
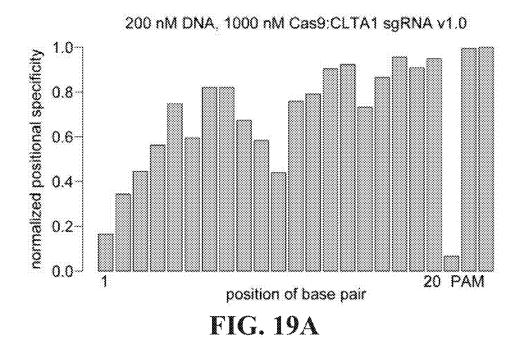
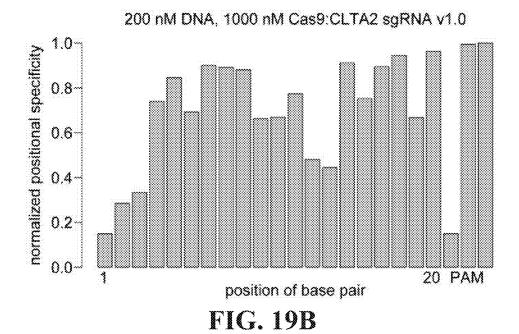
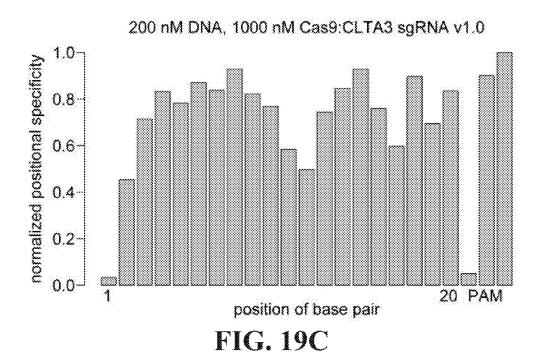


FIG. 18D







200 nM DNA, 1000 nM Cas9:CLTA4 sgRNA v1.0

1.0

0.8

0.6

0.7

1

position of base pair

FIG. 19D

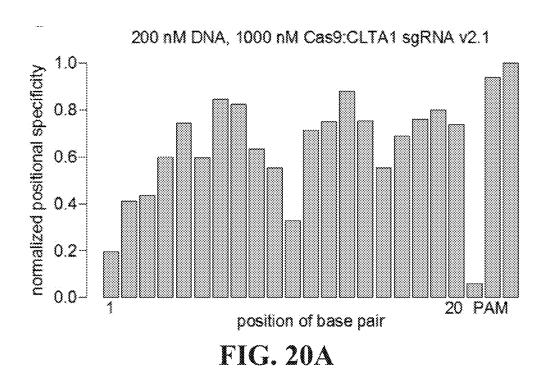
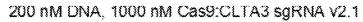


FIG. 20B



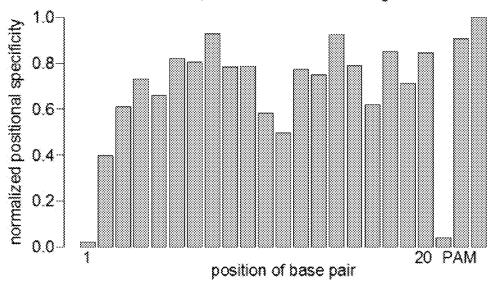


FIG. 20C

200 nM DNA, 1000 nM Cas9:CLTA4 sgRNA v2.1

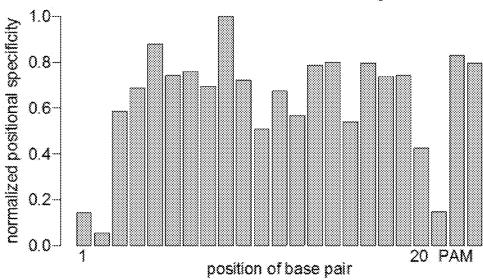


FIG. 20D

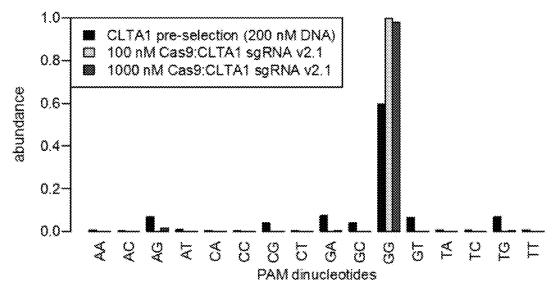


FIG. 21A

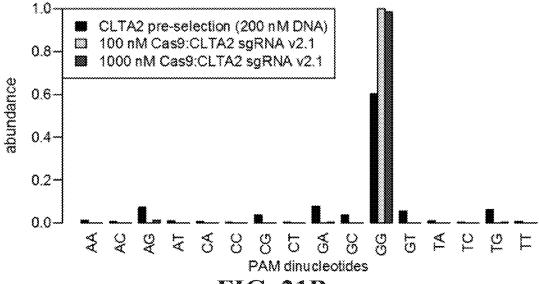


FIG. 21B

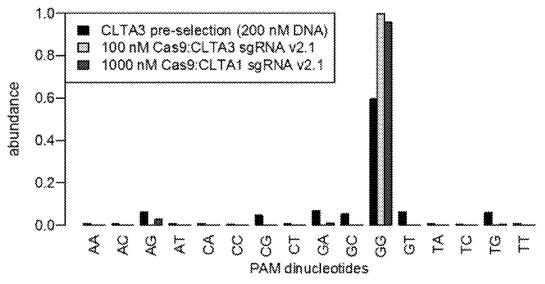


FIG. 21C

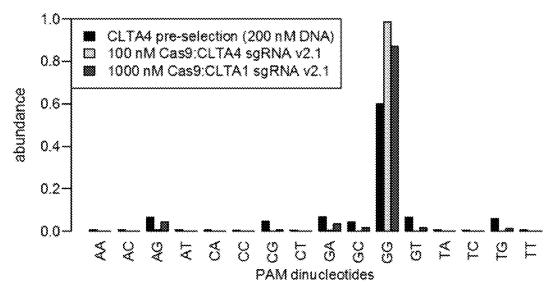
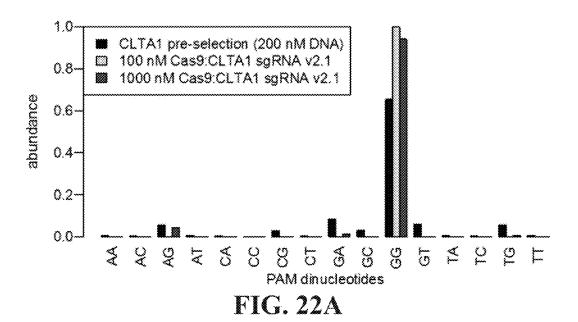


FIG. 21D



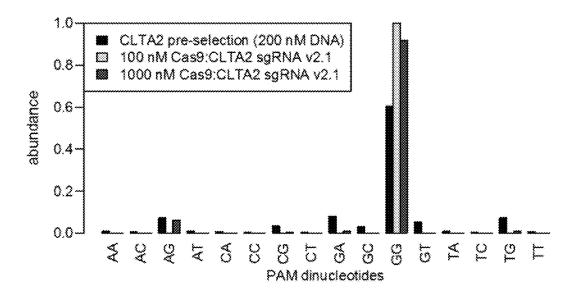
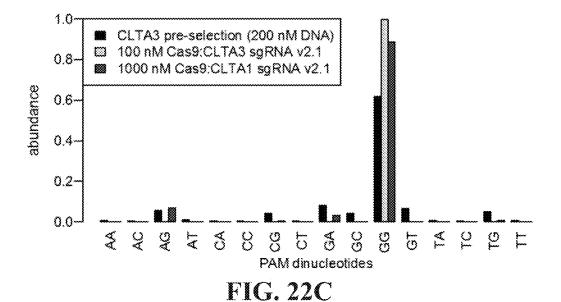
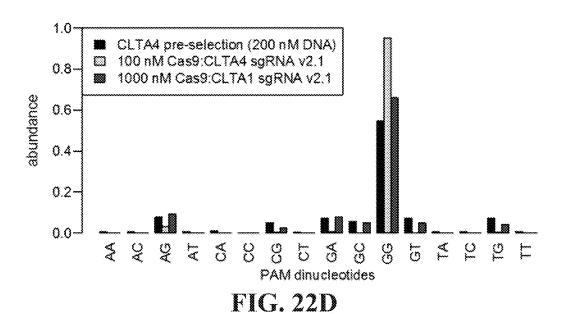


FIG. 22B





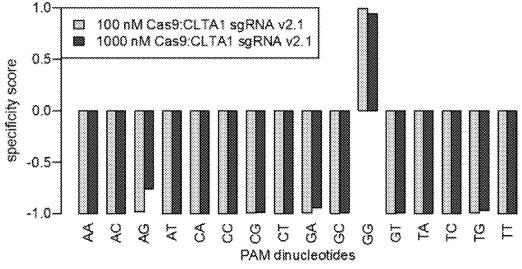


FIG. 23A

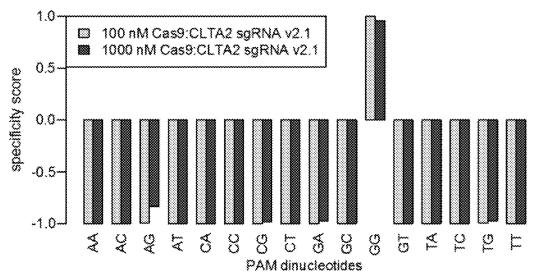


FIG. 23B

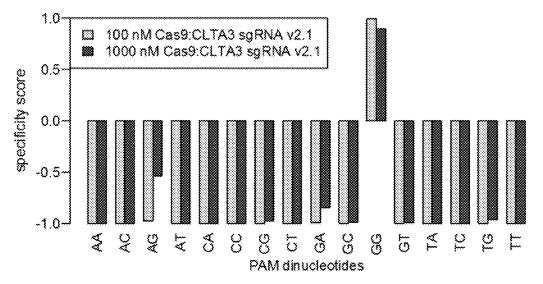


FIG. 23C

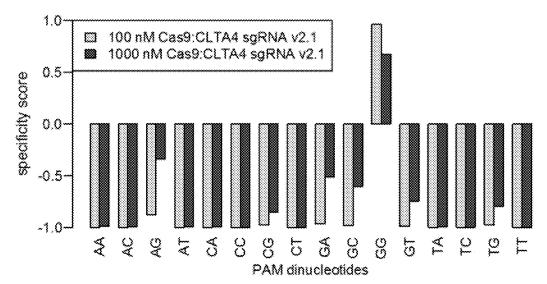


FIG. 23D

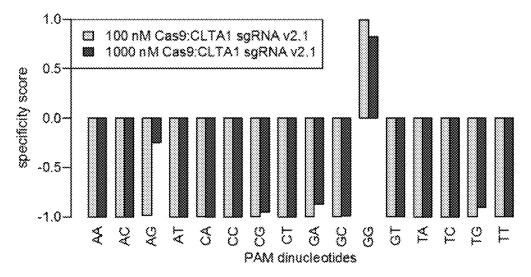


FIG. 24A

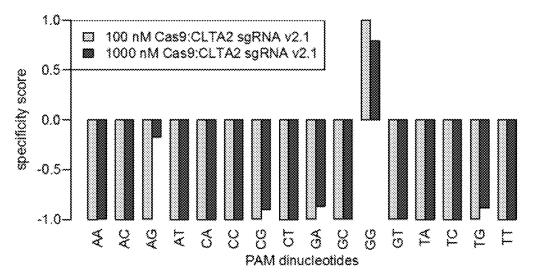


FIG. 24B

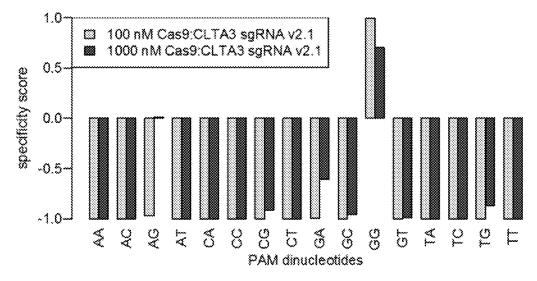


FIG. 24C

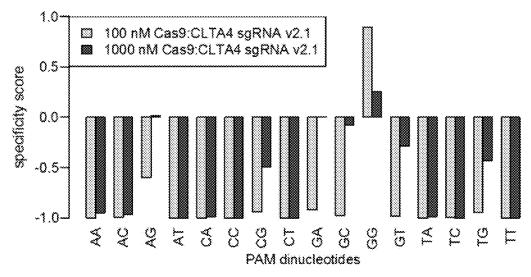


FIG. 24D

CLTA1 sgRNA-dependent specificity change (100 nM v2.1 - 1000 nM v2.1)

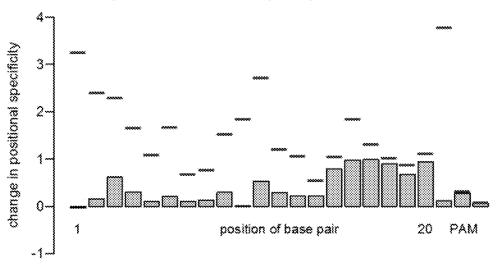


FIG. 25A

CLTA2 sgRNA-dependent specificity change (100 nM v2.1 - 1000 nM v2.1)

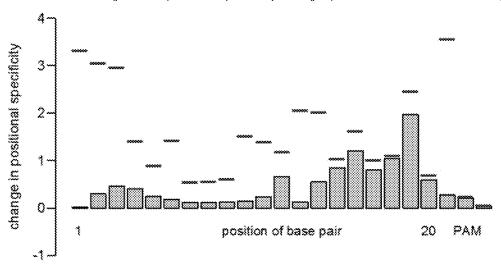


FIG. 25B

CLTA3 sgRNA-dependent specificity change (100 nM v2.1 - 1000 nM v2.1)

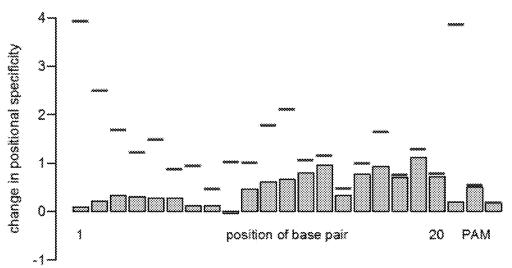


FIG. 25C

CLTA4 sgRNA-dependent specificity change (100 nM v2.1 - 1000 nM v2.1)

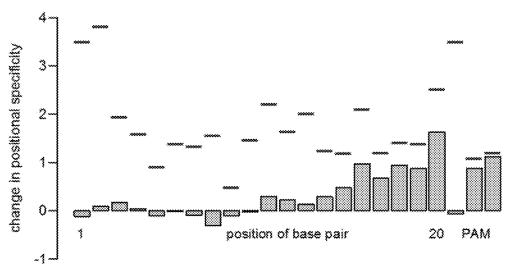


FIG. 25D

CLTA1 sgRNA-dependent specificity change (1000 nM v1.0 - 1000 nM v2.1)

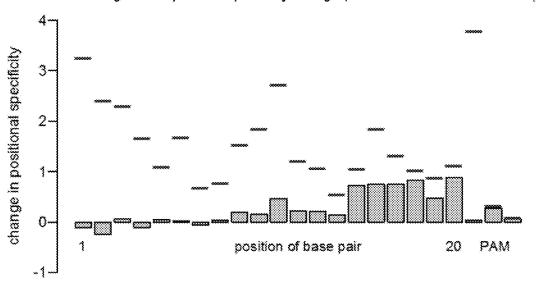


FIG. 26A

CLTA2 sgRNA-dependent specificity change (1000 nM v1.0 - 1000 nM v2.1)

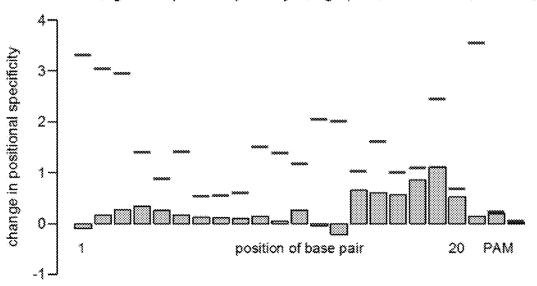
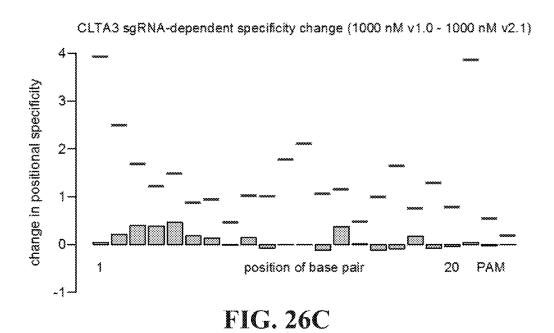


FIG. 26B



CLTA4 sgRNA-dependent specificity change (1000 nM v1.0 - 1000 nM v2.1)

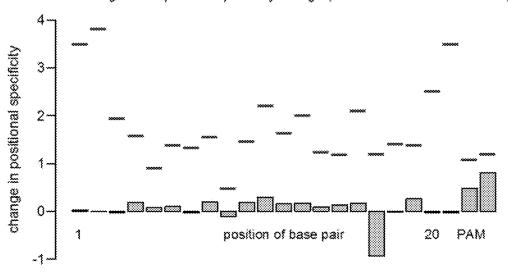
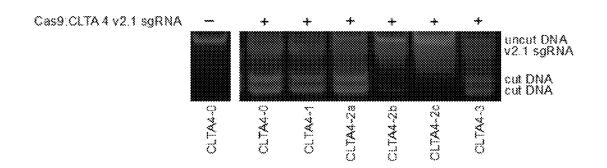


FIG. 26D



	sequence	In vitro selection enrichment value	% cut
CLTA4-0	GCAGATGTAGTGTTTCCACAGGG	7.9	85%
CLTA4-1	GAAGATGTAGTGTTTCCACAGGG	27.5	84%
CLTA4-2a	GaAGATGTAGTSTTTCCACtGGG	43.9	79%
CLTA4-2b	GCAGATGGAGGGTTTCCACAGGG	1.0	35%
CLTA4-2c	GCAGATGTAGTGTTaCCAGAGGG	0.064	none detected
CLTA4-3	GggGATGTAGTGTTTCCAC::GGG	95.9	72%

FIG. 27

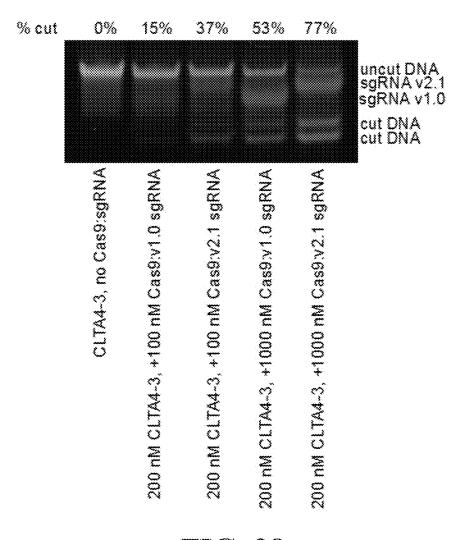


FIG. 28

METHODS FOR IDENTIFYING A TARGET SITE OF A CAS9 NUCLEASE

RELATED APPLICATION

This application claims priority under 35 U.S.C. §119(e) to U.S. provisional patent application, U.S. Ser. No. 61/864, 289, filed Aug. 9, 2013, the entire contents of which are incorporated herein by reference.

GOVERNMENT SUPPORT

This invention was made with U.S. Government support under grant numbers HR0011-11-2-0003 and N66001-12-C-4207, awarded by the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency. The U.S. Government has certain rights in the invention.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Site-specific endonucleases theoretically allow for the targeted manipulation of a single site within a genome and are useful in the context of gene targeting as well as for therapeutic applications. In a variety of organisms, including mammals, site-specific endonucleases have been used for genome 25 engineering by stimulating either non-homologous end joining or homologous recombination. In addition to providing powerful research tools, site-specific nucleases also have potential as gene therapy agents, and two site-specific endonucleases have recently entered clinical trials: one, CCR5-2246, targeting a human CCR-5 allele as part of an anti-HIV therapeutic approach (NCT00842634, NCT01044654, NCT01252641), and the other one, VF24684, targeting the human VEGF-A promoter as part of an anti-cancer therapeutic approach (NCT01082926).

Specific cleavage of the intended nuclease target site without or with only minimal off-target activity is a prerequisite for clinical applications of site-specific endonuclease, and also for high-efficiency genomic manipulations in basic research applications, as imperfect specificity of engineered 40 site-specific binding domains has been linked to cellular toxicity and undesired alterations of genomic loci other than the intended target. Most nucleases available today, however, exhibit significant off-target activity, and thus may not be suitable for clinical applications. Technology for evaluating 45 nuclease specificity and for engineering nucleases with improved specificity are therefore needed.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Some aspects of this disclosure are based on the recognition that the reported toxicity of some engineered site-specific endonucleases is based on off-target DNA cleavage, rather than on off-target binding alone. Some aspects of this disclosure provide strategies, compositions, systems, and methods 55 to evaluate and characterize the sequence specificity of site-specific nucleases, for example, RNA-programmable endonucleases, such as Cas9 endonucleases, zinc finger nucleases (ZNFs), homing endonucleases, or transcriptional activator-like element nucleases (TALENs).

The strategies, methods, and reagents of the present disclosure represent, in some aspects, an improvement over previous methods for assaying nuclease specificity. For example, some previously reported methods for determining nuclease target site specificity profiles by screening libraries of nucleic 65 acid molecules comprising candidate target sites relied on a "two-cut" in vitro selection method which requires indirect

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reconstruction of target sites from sequences of two half-sites resulting from two adjacent cuts of the nuclease of a library member nucleic acid (see e.g., PCT Application WO 2013/ 066438; and Pattanayak, V., Ramirez, C. L., Joung, J. K. & Liu, D. R. Revealing off-target cleavage specificities of zincfinger nucleases by in vitro selection. Nature methods 8, 765-770 (2011), the entire contents of each of which are incorporated herein by reference). In contrast to such "twocut" strategies, the methods of the present disclosure utilize an optimized "one cut" screening strategy, which allows for the identification of library members that have been cut at least once by the nuclease. As explained in more detail elsewhere herein, the "one-cut" selection strategies provided herein are compatible with single end high-throughput sequencing methods and do not require computational reconstruction of cleaved target sites from cut half-sites, thus streamlining the nuclease profiling process.

Some aspects of this disclosure provide in vitro selection methods for evaluating the cleavage specificity of endonucleases and for selecting nucleases with a desired level of specificity. Such methods are useful, for example, for characterizing an endonuclease of interest and for identifying a nuclease exhibiting a desired level of specificity, for example, for identifying a highly specific endonuclease for clinical applications.

Some aspects of this disclosure provide methods of identifying suitable nuclease target sites that are sufficiently different from any other site within a genome to achieve specific cleavage by a given nuclease without any or at least minimal off-target cleavage. Such methods are useful for identifying candidate nuclease target sites that can be cleaved with high specificity on a genomic background, for example, when choosing a target site for genomic manipulation in vitro or in vivo.

Some aspects of this disclosure provide methods of evaluating, selecting, and/or designing site-specific nucleases with enhanced specificity as compared to current nucleases. For example, provided herein are methods that are useful for selecting and/or designing site-specific nucleases with minimal off-target cleavage activity, for example, by designing variant nucleases with binding domains having decreased binding affinity, by lowering the final concentration of the nuclease, by choosing target sites that differ by at least three base pairs from their closest sequence relatives in the genome, and, in the case of RNA-programmable nucleases, by selecting a guide RNA that results in the fewest off-target sites being bound and/or cut.

Compositions and kits useful in the practice of the methods described herein are also provided.

Some aspects of this disclosure provide methods for identifying a target site of a nuclease. In some embodiments, the method comprises (a) providing a nuclease that cuts a doublestranded nucleic acid target site, wherein cutting of the target site results in cut nucleic acid strands comprising a 5' phosphate moiety; (b) contacting the nuclease of (a) with a library of candidate nucleic acid molecules, wherein each nucleic acid molecule comprises a concatemer of a sequence comprising a candidate nuclease target site and a constant insert sequence, under conditions suitable for the nuclease to cut a 60 candidate nucleic acid molecule comprising a target site of the nuclease; and (c) identifying nuclease target sites cut by the nuclease in (b) by determining the sequence of an uncut nuclease target site on the nucleic acid strand that was cut by the nuclease in step (b). In some embodiments, the nuclease creates blunt ends. In some embodiments, the nuclease creates a 5' overhang. In some embodiments, the determining of step (c) comprises ligating a first nucleic acid adapter to the 5'

end of a nucleic acid strand that was cut by the nuclease in step (b) via 5'-phosphate-dependent ligation. In some embodiments, the nucleic acid adapter is provided in double-stranded form. In some embodiments, the 5'-phosphate-dependent ligation is a blunt end ligation. In some embodiments, the 5 method comprises filling in the 5'-overhang before ligating the first nucleic acid adapter to the nucleic acid strand that was cut by the nuclease. In some embodiments, the determining of step (c) further comprises amplifying a fragment of the concatemer cut by the nuclease that comprises an uncut target site via a PCR reaction using a PCR primer that hybridizes with the adapter and a PCR primer that hybridizes with the constant insert sequence. In some embodiments, the method further comprises enriching the amplified nucleic acid molecules for molecules comprising a single uncut target 15 sequence. In some embodiments, the step of enriching comprises a size fractionation. In some embodiments, the determining of step (c) comprises sequencing the nucleic acid strand that was cut by the nuclease in step (b), or a copy thereof obtained via PCR. In some embodiments, the library 20 of candidate nucleic acid molecules comprises at least 10⁸, at least 109, at least 1010, at least 1011, or at least 1012 different candidate nuclease cleavage sites. In some embodiments, the nuclease is a therapeutic nuclease which cuts a specific nuclease target site in a gene associated with a disease. In 25 some embodiments, the method further comprises determining a maximum concentration of the therapeutic nuclease at which the therapeutic nuclease cuts the specific nuclease target site, and does not cut more than 10, more than 5, more than 4, more than 3, more than 2, more than 1, or no additional 30 nuclease target sites. In some embodiments, the method further comprises administering the therapeutic nuclease to a subject in an amount effective to generate a final concentration equal or lower than the maximum concentration. In some embodiments, the nuclease is an RNA-programmable 35 nuclease that forms a complex with an RNA molecule, and wherein the nuclease:RNA complex specifically binds a nucleic acid sequence complementary to the sequence of the RNA molecule. In some embodiments, the RNA molecule is a single-guide RNA (sgRNA). In some embodiments, the 40 sgRNA comprises 5-50 nucleotides, 10-30 nucleotides, 15-25 nucleotides, 18-22 nucleotides, 19-21 nucleotides, e.g., 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, or 30 nucleotides. In some embodiments, the nuclease is a Cas9 nuclease. In some embodiments, the 45 nuclease target site comprises a [sgRNA-complementary sequence]-[protospacer adjacent motif (PAM)] structure, and the nuclease cuts the target site within the sgRNA-complementary sequence. In some embodiments, the sgRNAcomplementary sequence comprises 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 50 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, or 30 nucleotides. In some embodiments, the nuclease comprises an unspecific nucleic acid cleavage domain. In some embodiments, the nuclease comprises a FokI cleavage domain. In some embodiments, the nuclease comprises a nucleic acid 55 cleavage domain that cleaves a target sequence upon cleavage domain dimerization. In some embodiments, the nuclease comprises a binding domain that specifically binds a nucleic acid sequence. In some embodiments, the binding domain comprises a zinc finger. In some embodiments, the binding 60 domain comprises at least 2, at least 3, at least 4, or at least 5 zinc fingers. In some embodiments, the nuclease is a Zinc Finger Nuclease. In some embodiments, the binding domain comprises a Transcriptional Activator-Like Element. In some embodiments, the nuclease is a Transcriptional Activator- 65 Like Element Nuclease (TALEN). In some embodiments, the nuclease is an organic compound. In some embodiments, the

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nuclease comprises an enediyne functional group. In some embodiments, the nuclease is an antibiotic. In some embodiments, the compound is dynemicin, neocarzinostatin, calicheamicin, esperamicin, bleomycin, or a derivative thereof. In some embodiments, the nuclease is a homing endonuclease.

Some aspects of this disclosure provide libraries of nucleic acid molecules, in which each nucleic acid molecule comprises a concatemer of a sequence comprising a candidate nuclease target site and a constant insert sequence of 10-100 nucleotides. In some embodiments, the constant insert sequence is at least 15, at least 20, at least 25, at least 30, at least 35, at least 40, at least 45, at least 50, at least 55, at least 60, at least 65, at least 70, at least 75, at least 80, or at least 95 nucleotides long. In some embodiments, the constant insert sequence is not more than 15, not more than 20, not more than 25, not more than 30, not more than 35, not more than 40, not more than 45, not more than 50, not more than 55, not more than 60, not more than 65, not more than 70, not more than 75, not more than 80, or not more than 95 nucleotides long. In some embodiments, the candidate nuclease target sites are sites that can be cleaved by an RNA-programmable nuclease, a Zinc Finger Nuclease (ZFN), a Transcription Activator-Like Effector Nuclease (TALEN), a homing endonuclease, an organic compound nuclease, or an enedivne antibiotic (e.g., dynemicin, neocarzinostatin, calicheamicin, esperamicin, bleomycin). In some embodiments, the candidate nuclease target site can be cleaved by a Cas9 nuclease. In some embodiments, the library comprises at least 10⁵, at least 10⁶, at least 10^7 , at least 10^8 , at least 10^9 , at least 10^{10} , at least 10^{11} , or at least 1012 different candidate nuclease target sites. In some embodiments, the library comprises nucleic acid molecules of a molecular weight of at least 0.5 kDa, at least 1 kDa, at least 2 kDa, at least 3 kDa, at least 4 kDa, at least 5 kDa, at least 6 kDa, at least 7 kDa, at least 8 kDa, at least 9 kDa, at least 10 kDa, at least 12 kDa, or at least 15 kDa. In some embodiments, the library comprises candidate nuclease target sites that are variations of a known target site of a nuclease of interest. In some embodiments, the variations of a known nuclease target site comprise 10 or fewer, 9 or fewer, 8 or fewer, 7 or fewer, 6 or fewer, 5 or fewer, 4 or fewer, 3 or fewer, or 2 or fewer mutations as compared to a known nuclease target site. In some embodiments, the variations differ from the known target site of the nuclease of interest by more than 5%, more than 10%, more than 15%, more than 20%, more than 25%, or more than 30% on average, distributed binomially. In some embodiments, the variations differ from the known target site by no more than 10%, no more than 15%, no more than 20%, no more than 25%, nor more than 30%, no more than 40%, or no more than 50% on average, distributed binomially. In some embodiments, the nuclease of interest is a Cas9 nuclease, a zinc finger nuclease, a TALEN, a homing endonuclease, an organic compound nuclease, or an enediyne antibiotic (e.g., dynemicin, neocarzinostatin, calicheamicin, esperamicin, bleomycin). In some embodiments, the candidate nuclease target sites are Cas9 nuclease target sites that comprise a [sgRNA-complementary sequence]-[PAM] structure, wherein the sgRNA-complementary sequence comprises 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, or 30 nucleotides.

Some aspects of this disclosure provide methods for selecting a nuclease that specifically cuts a consensus target site from a plurality of nucleases. In some embodiments, the method comprises (a) providing a plurality of candidate nucleases that cut the same consensus sequence; (b) for each of the candidate nucleases of step (a), identifying a nuclease target site cleaved by the candidate nuclease that differ from

the consensus target site using a method provided herein; (c) selecting a nuclease based on the nuclease target site(s) identified in step (b). In some embodiments, the nuclease selected in step (c) is the nuclease that cleaves the consensus target site with the highest specificity. In some embodiments, the 5 nuclease that cleaves the consensus target site with the highest specificity is the candidate nuclease that cleaves the lowest number of target sites that differ from the consensus site. In some embodiments, the candidate nuclease that cleaves the consensus target site with the highest specificity is the candidate nuclease that cleaves the lowest number of target sites that are different from the consensus site in the context of a target genome. In some embodiments, the candidate nuclease selected in step (c) is a nuclease that does not cleave any target site other than the consensus target site. In some embodiments, the candidate nuclease selected in step (c) is a nuclease that does not cleave any target site other than the consensus target site within the genome of a subject at a therapeutically effective concentration of the nuclease. In some embodiments, the method further comprises contacting a genome 20 with the nuclease selected in step (c). In some embodiments, the genome is a vertebrate, mammalian, human, non-human primate, rodent, mouse, rat, hamster, goat, sheep, cattle, dog, cat, reptile, amphibian, fish, nematode, insect, or fly genome. In some embodiments, the genome is within a living cell. In 25 claims. some embodiments, the genome is within a subject. In some embodiments, the consensus target site is within an allele that is associated with a disease or disorder. In some embodiments, cleavage of the consensus target site results in treatment or prevention of a disease or disorder, e.g., amelioration 30 or prevention of at least one sign and/or symptom of the disease or disorder. In some embodiments, cleavage of the consensus target site results in the alleviation of a sign and/or symptom of the disease or disorder. In some embodiments, cleavage of the consensus target site results in the prevention 35 of the disease or disorder. In some embodiments, the disease is HIV/AIDS. In some embodiments, the allele is a CCR5 allele. In some embodiments, the disease is a proliferative disease. In some embodiments, the disease is cancer. In some embodiments, the allele is a VEGFA allele.

Some aspects of this disclosure provide isolated nucleases that have been selected according to a method provided herein. In some embodiments, the nuclease has been engineered to cleave a target site within a genome. In some embodiments, the nuclease is a Cas9 nuclease comprising an 45 sgRNA that is complementary to the target site within the genome. In some embodiments, the nuclease is a Zinc Finger Nuclease (ZFN) or a Transcription Activator-Like Effector Nuclease (TALEN), a homing endonuclease, or an organic compound nuclease (e.g., an enediyne, an antibiotic nuclease, 50 dynemicin, neocarzinostatin, calicheamicin, esperamicin, bleomycin, or a derivative thereof). In some embodiments, the nuclease has been selected based on cutting no other candidate target site, not more than one candidate target site, not more than two candidate target sites, not more than three 55 candidate target sites, not more than four candidate target sites, not more than five candidate target sites, not more than six candidate target sites, not more than seven candidate target sites, not more than eight candidate target sites, not more than eight candidate target sites, not more than nine 60 candidate target sites, or not more than ten candidate target sites in addition to its known nuclease target site.

Some aspects of this disclosure provide kits comprising a library of nucleic acid molecules comprising candidate nuclease target sites as provided herein. Some aspects of this 65 disclosure provide kits comprising an isolated nuclease as provided herein. In some embodiments, the nuclease is a Cas9

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nuclease. In some embodiments, the kit further comprises a nucleic acid molecule comprising a target site of the isolated nuclease. In some embodiments, the kit comprises an excipient and instructions for contacting the nuclease with the excipient to generate a composition suitable for contacting a nucleic acid with the nuclease. In some embodiments, the composition is suitable for contacting a nucleic acid within a genome. In some embodiments, the composition is suitable for contacting a nucleic acid within a cell. In some embodiments, the composition is suitable for contacting a nucleic acid within a subject. In some embodiments, the excipient is a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

Some aspects of this disclosure provide pharmaceutical compositions that are suitable for administration to a subject. In some embodiments, the composition comprises an isolated nuclease as provided herein. In some embodiments, the composition comprises a nucleic acid encoding such a nuclease. In some embodiments, the composition comprises a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

Other advantages, features, and uses of the invention will be apparent from the detailed description of certain nonlimiting embodiments of the invention; the drawings, which are schematic and not intended to be drawn to scale; and the claims

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIGS. 1A-B. In vitro selection overview. (a) Cas9 complexed with a short guide RNA (sgRNA) recognizes ~20 bases of a target DNA substrate that is complementary to the sgRNA sequence and cleaves both DNA strands. The white triangles represent cleavage locations. (b) A modified version of our previously described in vitro selection was used to comprehensively profile Cas9 specificity. A concatemeric pre-selection DNA library in which each molecule contains one of 10¹² distinct variants of a target DNA sequence (white rectangles) was generated from synthetic DNA oligonucleotides by ligation and rolling-circle amplification. This library was incubated with a Cas9:sgRNA complex of interest. Cleaved library members contain 5' phosphate groups (circles) and therefore are substrates for adapter ligation and PCR. The resulting amplicons were subjected to highthroughput DNA sequencing and computational analysis.

FIGS. 2A-H. In vitro selection results for Cas9:CLTA1 sgRNA. Heat maps²¹ show the specificity profiles of Cas9: CLTA1 sgRNA v2.1 under enzyme-limiting conditions (a, b), Cas9:CLTA1 sgRNA v1.0 under enzyme-saturating conditions (c, d), and Cas9:CLTA1 sgRNA v2.1 under enzymesaturating conditions (e, f). Heat maps show all post-selection sequences (a, c, e) or only those sequences containing a single mutation in the 20-base pair sgRNA-specified target site and two-base pair PAM (b, d, f). Specificity scores of 1.0 and -1.0 corresponds to 100% enrichment for and against, respectively, a particular base pair at a particular position. Black boxes denote the intended target nucleotides. (g) Effect of Cas9:sgRNA concentration on specificity. Positional specificity changes between enzyme-limiting (200 nM DNA, 100 nM Cas9:sgRNA v2.1) and enzyme-saturating (200 nM DNA, 1000 nM Cas9:sgRNA v2.1) conditions, normalized to the maximum possible change in positional specificity, are shown for CLTA1. (h) Effect of sgRNA architecture on specificity. Positional specificity changes between sgRNA v1.0 and sgRNA v2.1 under enzyme-saturating conditions, normalized to the maximum possible change in positional specificity, are shown for CLTA1. See FIGS. 6-8, 25, and 26 for corresponding data for CLTA2, CLTA3, and CLTA4.

FIGS. 3A-D. Target sites profiled in this study. (A) The 5' end of the sgRNA has 20 nucleotides that are complementary to the target site. The target site contains an NGG motif (PAM) adjacent to the region of RNA:DNA complementarity. (B) Four human clathrin gene (CLTA) target sites are shown. 5 Sequences correspond, from top to bottom, to SEQ ID NOs: 2-7, respectively. (C, D) Four human clathrin gene (CLTA) target sites are shown with sgRNAs. sgRNA v1.0 is shorter than sgRNA v2.1. The PAM is shown for each site. The non-PAM end of the target site corresponds to the 5' end of the sgRNA. Sequences in FIG. 3C correspond, from top to bottom, to SEQ ID NOs: 8-19, respectively. Sequences in FIG. 3D correspond, from top to bottom, to SEQ ID NOs: 20-31, respectively.

FIG. 4. Cas9:guide RNA cleavage of on-target DNA 15 sequences in vitro. Discrete DNA cleavage assays on an approximately 1-kb linear substrate were performed with 200 nM on-target site and 100 nM Cas9:v1.0 sgRNA, 100 nM Cas9:v2.1 sgRNA, 1000 nM Cas9:v1.0 sgRNA, and 1000 nM Cas9:v2.1 sgRNA for each of four CLTA target sites. For 20 CLTA1, CLTA2, and CLTA4, Cas9:v2.1 sgRNA shows higher activity than Cas9:v1.0 sgRNA. For CLTA3, the activities of the Cas9:v1.0 sgRNA and Cas9:v2.1 sgRNA were comparable.

FIGS. 5A-E. In vitro selection results for four target sites. 25 In vitro selections were performed on 200 nM pre-selection library with 100 nM Cas9:sgRNA v2.1, 1000 nM Cas9: sgRNA v1.0, or 1000 nM Cas9:sgRNA v2.1. (A) Post-selection PCR products are shown for the 12 selections performed. DNA containing 1.5 repeats were quantified for each selection and pooled in equimolar amounts before gel purification and sequencing. (B-E) Distributions of mutations are shown for pre-selection (black) and post-selection libraries (colored). The post-selection libraries are enriched for sequences with fewer mutations than the pre-selection libraries. Muta- 35 tions are counted from among the 20 base pairs specified by the sgRNA and the two-base pair PAM. P-values are <0.01 for all pairwise comparisons between distributions in each panel. P-values were calculated using t-tests, assuming unequal size and unequal variance.

FIGS. 6A-F. In vitro selection results for Cas9:CLTA2 sgRNA. Heat maps²⁴ show the specificity profiles of Cas9: CLTA2 sgRNA v2.1 under enzyme-limiting conditions (A, B), Cas9:CLTA2 sgRNA v1.0 under enzyme-excess conditions (C, D), and Cas9:CLTA2 sgRNA v2.1 under enzyme-excess conditions (E, F). Heat maps show all post-selection sequences (A, C, E) or only those sequences containing a single mutation in the 20-base pair sgRNA-specified target site and two-base pair PAM (B, D, F). Specificity scores of 1.0 and -1.0 corresponds to 100% enrichment for and against, 50 respectively, a particular base pair at a particular position. Black boxes denote the intended target nucleotides.

FIGS. 7A-F. In vitro selection results for Cas9:CLTA3 sgRNA. Heat maps²⁴ show the specificity profiles of Cas9: CLTA3 sgRNA v2.1 under enzyme-limiting conditions (A, 55 B), Cas9:CLTA3 sgRNA v1.0 under enzyme-excess conditions (C, D), and Cas9:CLTA3 sgRNA v2.1 under enzyme-saturating conditions (E, F). Heat maps show all post-selection sequences (A, C, E) or only those sequences containing a single mutation in the 20-base pair sgRNA-specified target 60 site and two-base pair PAM (B, D, F). Specificity scores of 1.0 and -1.0 corresponds to 100% enrichment for and against, respectively, a particular base pair at a particular position. Black boxes denote the intended target nucleotides.

FIGS. **8**A-F. In vitro selection results for Cas9:CLTA4 65 sgRNA. Heat maps²⁴ show the specificity profiles of Cas9: CLTA4 sgRNA v2.1 under enzyme-limiting conditions (A,

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B), Cas9:CLTA4 sgRNA v1.0 under enzyme-excess conditions (C, D), and Cas9:CLTA4 sgRNA v2.1 under enzyme-saturating conditions (E, F). Heat maps show all post-selection sequences (A, C, E) or only those sequences containing a single mutation in the 20-base pair sgRNA-specified target site and two-base pair PAM (B, D, F). Specificity scores of 1.0 and -1.0 corresponds to 100% enrichment for and against, respectively, a particular base pair at a particular position. Black boxes denote the intended target nucleotides.

FIGS. 9A-D. In vitro selection results as sequence logos. Information content is plotted²⁵ for each target site position (1-20) specified by CLTA1 (A), CLTA2 (B), CLTA3 (C), and CLTA4 (D) sgRNA v2.1 under enzyme-limiting conditions. Positions in the PAM are labelled "P1," "P2," and "P3." Information content is plotted in bits. 2.0 bits indicates absolute specificity and 0 bits indicates no specificity.

FIGS. 10A-L. Tolerance of mutations distal to the PAM for CLTA1. The maximum specificity scores at each position are shown for the Cas9:CLTA1 v2.1 sgRNA selections when considering only those sequences with on-target base pairs in gray, while allowing mutations in the first 1-12 base pairs (a-l). The positions that are not constrained to on-target base pairs are indicated by dark bars. Higher specificity score values indicate higher specificity at a given position. The positions that were not allowed to contain any mutations (gray) were plotted with a specificity score of +1. For all panels, specificity scores were calculated from pre-selection library sequences and post-selection library sequences with an n≥5,130 and n≥74,538, respectively.

FIGS. 11A-L. Tolerance of mutations distal to the PAM for CLTA2. The maximum specificity scores at each position are shown for the Cas9:CLTA2 v2.1 sgRNA selections when considering only those sequences with on-target base pairs in gray, while allowing mutations in the first 1-12 base pairs (a-l). The positions that are not constrained to on-target base pairs are indicated by dark bars. Higher specificity score values indicate higher specificity at a given position. The positions that were not allowed to contain any mutations (gray) were plotted with a specificity score of +1. For all panels, specificity scores were calculated from pre-selection library sequences and post-selection library sequences with an n≥3,190 and n≥25,365, respectively.

FIGS. 12A-L. Tolerance of mutations distal to the PAM for CLTA3. The maximum specificity scores at each position are shown for the Cas9:CLTA3 v2.1 sgRNA selections when considering only those sequences with on-target base pairs in gray, while allowing mutations in the first 1-12 base pairs (a-l). The positions that are not constrained to on-target base pairs are indicated by dark bars. Higher specificity score values indicate higher specificity at a given position. The positions that were not allowed to contain any mutations (gray) were plotted with a specificity score of +1. For all panels, specificity scores were calculated from pre-selection library sequences and post-selection library sequences with an n≥5,604 and n≥158,424, respectively.

FIGS. 13A-I. Tolerance of mutations distal to the PAM for CLTA4. The maximum specificity scores at each position are shown for the Cas9:CLTA4 v2.1 sgRNA selections when considering only those sequences with on-target base pairs in gray, while allowing mutations in the first 1-12 base pairs (a-i). The positions that are not constrained to on-target base pairs are indicated by dark bars. Higher specificity score values indicate higher specificity at a given position. The positions that were not allowed to contain any mutations (gray) were plotted with a specificity score of +1. For all panels, specificity scores were calculated from pre-selection

library sequences and post-selection library sequences with an n≥2,323 and n≥21,819, respectively.

FIGS. 14A-L. Tolerance of mutations distal to the PAM in CLTA1 target sites. Distributions of mutations are shown for in vitro selection on 200 nM pre-selection library with 1000 5 nM Cas9:CLTA1 sgRNA v2.1. The number of mutations shown are in a 1-12 base pair target site subsequence farthest from the PAM (a-l) when the rest of the target site, including the PAM, contains only on-target base pairs. The pre-selection and post-selection distributions are similar for up to three 10 base pairs, demonstrating tolerance for target sites with mutations in the three base pairs farthest from the PAM when the rest of the target sites have optimal interactions with the Cas9:sgRNA. For all panels, graphs were generated from pre-selection library sequences and post-selection library 15 sequences with an n≥5,130 and n≥74,538, respectively.

FIGS. 15A-L. Tolerance of mutations distal to the PAM in CLTA2 target sites. Distributions of mutations are shown for in vitro selection on 200 nM pre-selection library with 1000 nM Cas9:CLTA2 sgRNA v2.1. The number of mutations 20 shown are in a 1-12 base pair target site subsequence farthest from the PAM (a-l) when the rest of the target site, including the PAM, contains only on-target base pairs. The pre-selection and post-selection distributions are similar for up to three base pairs, demonstrating tolerance for target sites with mutations in the three base pairs farthest from the PAM when the rest of the target sites have optimal interactions with the Cas9:sgRNA. For all panels, graphs were generated from pre-selection library sequences and post-selection library sequences with an n≥3,190 and n≥21,265, respectively.

FIGS. 16A-L. Tolerance of mutations distal to PAM in CLTA3 target sites. Distributions of mutations are shown for in vitro selection on 200 nM pre-selection library with 1000 nM Cas9:CLTA3 sgRNA v2.1. The number of mutations shown are in a 1-12 base pair target site subsequence farthest 35 from the PAM (a-l) when the rest of the target site, including the PAM, contains only on-target base pairs. The pre-selection and post-selection distributions are similar for up to three base pairs, demonstrating tolerance for target sites with mutations in the three base pairs farthest from the PAM when the 40 rest of the target sites have optimal interactions with the Cas9:sgRNA. For all panels, graphs were generated from pre-selection library sequences and post-selection library sequences with an n≥5,604 and n≥158,424, respectively.

FIGS. 17A-L. Tolerance of mutations distal to PAM in 45 CLTA4 target sites. Distributions of mutations are shown for in vitro selection on 200 nM pre-selection library with 1000 nM Cas9:CLTA4 sgRNA v2.1. The number of mutations shown are in a 1-12 base pair target site subsequence farthest from the PAM (a-l) when the rest of the target site, including 50 the PAM, contains only on-target base pairs. The pre-selection and post-selection distributions are similar for up to three base pairs, demonstrating tolerance for target sites with mutations in the three base pairs farthest from the PAM when the rest of the target sites have optimal interactions with the 55 Cas9:sgRNA. For all panels, graphs were generated from pre-selection library sequences and post-selection library sequences with an n≥2,323 and n≥21,819, respectively.

FIGS. **18**A-D. Positional specificity patterns for 100 nM Cas9:sgRNA v2.1. Positional specificity, defined as the sum 60 of the magnitude of the specificity score for each of the four possible base pairs recognized at a certain position in the target site, is plotted for each target site under enzyme-limiting conditions for sgRNA v2.1 (A-D). The positional specificity is shown as a value normalized to the maximum positional specificity value of the target site. Positional specificity is highest at the end of the target site proximal to the PAM and

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is lowest in the middle of the target site and in the several nucleotides most distal to the PAM.

FIGS. 19A-D. Positional specificity patterns for 1000 nM Cas9:sgRNA v1.0. Positional specificity, defined as the sum of the magnitude of the specificity score for each of the four possible base pairs recognized at a certain position in the target site, is plotted for each target site under enzyme-excess conditions with sgRNA v1.0 (A-D). The positional specificity is shown as a value normalized to the maximum positional specificity value of the target site. Positional specificity is relatively constant across the target site but is lowest in the middle of the target site and in the several nucleotides most distal to the PAM.

FIGS. **20**A-D. Positional specificity patterns for 1000 nM Cas9:sgRNA v2.1. Positional specificity, defined as the sum of the magnitude of the specificity score for each of the four possible base pairs recognized at a certain position in the target site, is plotted for each target site under enzyme-excess conditions with sgRNA v2.1 (A-D). The positional specificity is shown as a value normalized to the maximum positional specificity value of the target site. Positional specificity is relatively constant across the target site but is lowest in the middle of the target site and in the several nucleotides most distal to the PAM.

FIGS. **21**A-D. PAM nucleotide preferences. The abundance in the pre-selection library and post-selection libraries under enzyme-limiting or enzyme-excess conditions are shown for all 16 possible PAM dinucleotides for selections with CLTA1 (a), CLTA2 (b), CLTA3 (c), and CLTA4 (d) sgRNA v2.1. GG dinucleotides increased in abundance in the post-selection libraries, while the other possible PAM dinucleotides decreased in abundance after the selection.

FIGS. 22A-D. PAM nucleotide preferences for on-target sites. Only post-selection library members containing no mutations in the 20 base pairs specified by the guide RNAs were included in this analysis. The abundance in the preselection library and post-selection libraries under enzymelimiting and enzyme-excess conditions are shown for all 16 possible PAM dinucleotides for selections with CLTA1 (A), CLTA2 (B), CLTA3 (C), and CLTA4 (D) sgRNA v2.1. GG dinucleotides increased in abundance in the post-selection libraries, while the other possible PAM dinucleotides generally decreased in abundance after the selection, although this effect for the enzyme-excess concentrations of Cas9:sgRNA was modest or non-existent for many dinucleotides.

FIGS. 23A-D. PAM dinucleotide specificity scores. The specificity scores under enzyme-limiting and enzyme-excess conditions are shown for all 16 possible PAM dinucleotides (positions 2 and 3 of the three-nucleotide NGG PAM) for selections with CLTA1 (A), CLTA2 (B), CLTA3 (C), and CLTA4 (D) sgRNA v2.1. The specificity score indicates the enrichment of the PAM dinucleotide in the post-selection library relative to the pre-selection library, normalized to the maximum possible enrichment of that dinucleotide. A specificity score of +1.0 indicates that a dinucleotide is 100% enriched in the post-selection library, and a specificity score of -1.0 indicates that a dinucleotide is 100% de-enriched. GG dinucleotides were the most enriched in the post-selection libraries, and AG, GA, GC, GT, and TG show less relative de-enrichment compared to the other possible PAM dinucleotides

FIGS. **24**A-D. PAM dinucleotide specificity scores for ontarget sites. Only post-selection library members containing no mutations in the 20 base pairs specified by the guide RNAs were included in this analysis. The specificity scores under enzyme-limiting and enzyme-excess conditions are shown for all 16 possible PAM dinucleotides (positions 2 and 3 of the

three-nucleotide NGG PAM) for selections with CLTA1 (A), CLTA2 (B), CLTA3 (C), and CLTA4 (D) sgRNA v2.1. The specificity score indicates the enrichment of the PAM dinucleotide in the post-selection library relative to the preselection library, normalized to the maximum possible enrichment of that dinucleotide. A specificity score of +1.0 indicates that a dinucleotide is 100% enriched in the post-selection library, and a specificity score of –1.0 indicates that a dinucleotide is 100% de-enriched. GG dinucleotides were the most enriched in the post-selection libraries, AG and GA nucleotides were neither enriched or de-enriched in at least one selection condition, and GC, GT, and TG show less relative de-enrichment compared to the other possible PAM dinucleotides.

FIGS. **25**A-D. Effects of Cas9:sgRNA concentration on specificity. Positional specificity changes between enzymelimiting (200 nM DNA, 100 nM Cas9:sgRNA v2.1) and enzyme-excess (200 nM DNA, 1000 nM Cas9:sgRNA v2.1) conditions are shown for selections with sgRNAs targeting CLTA1 (A), CLTA2 (B), CLTA3 (C), and CLTA4 (D) target sites. Lines indicate the maximum possible change in positional specificity for a given position. The highest changes in specificity occur proximal to the PAM as enzyme concentration is increased.

FIGS. **26**A-D. Effects of sgRNA architecture on specificity. Positional specificity changes between Cas9:sgRNA v1.0 and Cas9:sgRNA v2.1 under enzyme-excess (200 nM DNA, 1000 nM Cas9:sgRNA v2.1) conditions are shown for selections with sgRNAs targeting CLTA1 (A), CLTA2 (B), CLTA3 (C), and CLTA4 (D) target sites. Lines indicate the maximum possible change in positional specificity for a given position.

FIG. 27. Cas9:guide RNA cleavage of off-target DNA sequences in vitro. Discrete DNA cleavage assays on a 96-bp linear substrate were performed with 200 nM DNA and 1000 nM Cas9:CLTA4 v2.1 sgRNA for the on-target CLTA4 site ³⁵ (CLTA4-0) and five CLTA4 off-target sites identified by in vitro selection. Enrichment values shown are from the in vitro selection with 1000 nM Cas9:CLTA4 v2.1 sgRNA. CLTA4-1 and CLTA4-3 were the most highly enriched sequences under these conditions. CLTA4-2a, CLTA4-2b, and CLTA4-2c are ⁴⁰ two-mutation sequences that represent a range of enrichment values from high enrichment to no enrichment to high deenrichment. Lowercase letters indicate mutations relative to the on-target CLTA4 site. The enrichment values are qualitatively consistent with the observed amount of cleavage in ⁴⁵ vitro.

FIG. 28. Effect of guide RNA architecture and Cas9: sgRNA concentration on in vitro cleavage of an off-target site. Discrete DNA cleavage assays on a 96-bp linear substrate were performed with 200 nM DNA and 100 nM Cas9: 50 v1.0 sgRNA, 100 nM Cas9:v2.1 sgRNA, 1000 nM Cas9:v1.0 sgRNA, or 1000 nM Cas9:v2.1 sgRNA for the CLTA4-3 off-target site (5' GggGATGTAGTGTTTCCACtGGG—mutations are shown in lowercase letters). DNA cleavage is observed under all four conditions tested, and cleavage rates are higher under enzyme-excess conditions, or with v2.1 sgRNA compared with v1.0 sgRNA.

DEFINITIONS

As used herein and in the claims, the singular forms "a," "an," and "the" include the singular and the plural reference unless the context clearly indicates otherwise. Thus, for example, a reference to "an agent" includes a single agent and a plurality of such agents.

The term "Cas9" or "Cas9 nuclease" refers to an RNAguided nuclease comprising a Cas9 protein, or a fragment 12

thereof. A Cas9 nuclease is also referred to sometimes as a casnl nuclease or a CRISPR (clustered regularly interspaced short palindromic repeat)-associated nuclease. CRISPR is an adaptive immune system that provides protection against mobile genetic elements (e.g., viruses, transposable elements and conjugative plasmids). CRISPR clusters contain spacers, sequences complementary to antecedent mobile elements, and target invading nucleic acids. CRISPR clusters are transcribed and processed into CRISPR RNA (crRNA). In type II CRISPR systems correct processing of pre-crRNA requires a trans-encoded small RNA (tracrRNA), endogenous ribonuclease 3 (rnc) and a Cas9 protein. The tracrRNA serves as a guide for ribonuclease 3-aided processing of pre-crRNA. Subsequently, Cas9/crRNA/tracrRNA endonucleolytically cleaves linear or circular dsDNA target complementary to the spacer. The target strand not complementary to crRNA is first cut endonucleolytically, then trimmed 3'-5' exonucleolytically. In nature, DNA-binding and cleavage typically requires protein and both RNA species. However, single guide RNAs ("sgRNA", or simply "gNRA") can be engineered so as to incorporate aspects of both the crRNA and tracrRNA into a single RNA molecule. See, e.g., Jinek M., Chylinski K., Fonfara I., Hauer M., Doudna J. A., Charpentier E. Science 337: 816-821(2012), the entire contents of which is hereby incorporated by reference. Cas9 recognizes a short motif in the CRISPR repeat sequences (the PAM or protospacer adjacent motif) to help distinguish self versus non-self. Cas9 nuclease sequences and structures are well known to those of skill in the art (see, e.g., "Complete genome sequence of an M1 strain of Streptococcus pyogenes." Ferretti J. J., McShan W. M., Ajdic D. J., Savic D. J., Savic G., Lyon K., Primeaux C., Sezate S., Suvorov A. N., Kenton S., Lai H. S., Lin S. P., Qian Y., Jia H. G., Najar F. Z., Ren Q., Zhu H., Song L. expand/ collapse author list McLaughlin R. E., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A. 98:4658-4663(2001); "CRISPR RNA maturation by trans-encoded small RNA and host factor RNase III." Deltcheva E., Chylinski K., Sharma C. M., Gonzales K., Chao Y., Pirzada Z. A., Eckert M. R., Vogel J., Charpentier E., Nature 471:602-607(2011); and "A programmable dual-RNA-guided DNA endonuclease in adaptive bacterial immunity." Jinek M., Chylinski K., Fonfara I., Hauer M., Doudna J. A., Charpentier E. Science 337:816-821(2012), the entire contents of each of which are incorporated herein by reference). Cas9 orthologs have been described in various species, including, but not limited to, S. pyogenes and S. thermophilus. Additional suitable Cas9 nucleases and sequences will be apparent to those of skill in the art based on this disclosure, and such Cas9 nucleases and sequences include Cas9 sequences from the organisms and loci disclosed in Chylinski, Rhun, and Charpentier, "The tracrRNA and Cas9 families of type II CRISPR-Cas immunity systems" (2013) RNA Biology 10:5, 726-737; the entire contents of which are incorporated herein by reference. In some embodiments, proteins comprising Cas9 or fragments thereof proteins are referred to as "Cas9 variants." A Cas9 variant shares homology to Cas9, or a fragment thereof. For example a Cas9 variant is at least about 70% identical, at least about 80% identical, at least about 90% identical, at least about 95% identical, at least about 98% identical, at least about 99% identical, at least about 99.5% identical, or at least about 99.9% to wild type Cas9. In some embodiments, the Cas9 variant comprises a fragment of Cas9 (e.g., a gRNA binding domain or a DNAcleavage domain), such that the fragment is at least about 70% identical, at least about 80% identical, at least about 90% identical, at least about 95% identical, at least about 98% identical, at least about 99% identical, at least about 99.5% identical, or at least about 99.9% to the corresponding frag-

ment of wild type Cas9. In some embodiments, wild type Cas9 corresponds to Cas9 from *Streptococcus pyogenes* (NCBI Reference Sequence: NC_017053.1, SEQ ID NO:40 (nucleotide); SEQ ID NO:41 (amino acid)).

(SEO ID NO: 40) ATGGATAAGAAATACTCAATAGGCTTAGATATCGGCACAAATAGCGTCGG ATGGGCGGTGATCACTGATGATTATAAGGTTCCGTCTAAAAAGTTCAAGG TTCTGGGAAATACAGACCGCCACAGTATCAAAAAAATCTTATAGGGGCT CTTTTATTTGGCAGTGGAGAGACAGCGGAGCGACTCGTCTCAAACGGAC AGCTCGTAGAAGGTATACACGTCGGAAGAATCGTATTTGTTATCTACAGG CTTGAAGAGTCTTTTTTGGTGGAAGAAGAAGAAGCATGAACGTCATCC TATTTTTGGAAATATAGTAGATGAAGTTGCTTATCATGAGAAATATCCAA CTATCTATCATCTGCGAAAAAAATTGGCAGATTCTACTGATAAAGCGGAT $\tt TTGCGCTTAATCTATTTGGCCTTAGCGCATATGATTAAGTTTCGTGGTCA$ TTTTTTGATTGAGGGAGATTTAAATCCTGATAATAGTGATGTGGACAAAC TATTTATCCAGTTGGTACAAATCTACAATCAATTATTTGAAGAAAACCCT ATTAACGCAAGTAGAGTAGATGCTAAAGCGATTCTTTCTGCACGATTGAG TAAATCAAGACGATTAGAAAATCTCATTGCTCAGCTCCCCGGTGAGAAGA GAAATGGCTTGTTTGGGAATCTCATTGCTTTGTCATTGGGATTGACCCCT AATTTTAAATCAAATTTTGATTTGGCAGAAGATGCTAAATTACAGCTTTC ${\tt AAAAGATACTTACGATGATGATTTAGATAATTTATTGGCGCAAATTGGAG}$ ATCAATATGCTGATTTGTTTTTGGCAGCTAAGAATTTATCAGATGCTATT TTACTTTCAGATATCCTAAGAGTAAATAGTGAAATAACTAAGGCTCCCCT ATCAGCTTCAATGATTAAGCGCTACGATGAACATCATCAAGACTTGACTC TTTTAAAAGCTTTAGTTCGACAACAACTTCCAGAAAAGTATAAAGAAATC TTTTTTGATCAATCAAAAAACGGATATGCAGGTTATATTGATGGGGGAGC TAGCCAAGAAGAATTTTATAAATTTATCAAACCAATTTTAGAAAAAATGG ATGGTACTGAGGAATTATTGGTGAAACTAAATCGTGAAGATTTGCTGCGC AAGCAACGGACCTTTGACAACGGCTCTATTCCCCATCAAATTCACTTGGG TGAGCTGCATGCTATTTTGAGAAGACAAGAAGACTTTTATCCATTTTTAA AAGACAATCGTGAGAAGATTGAAAAAATCTTGACTTTTCGAATTCCTTAT ${\tt TATGTTGGTCCATTGGCGCGTGGCAATAGTCGTTTTGCATGGATGACTCG}$ GAAGTCTGAAGAACAATTACCCCATGGAATTTTGAAGAAGTTGTCGATA AAGGTGCTTCAGCTCAATCATTTATTGAACGCATGACAAACTTTGATAAA AATCTTCCAAATGAAAAGTACTACCAAAACATAGTTTGCTTTATGAGTA TTTTACGGTTTATAACGAATTGACAAAGGTCAAATATGTTACTGAGGGAA TGCGAAAACCAGCATTTCTTTCAGGTGAACAGAAGAAAGCCATTGTTGAT TTACTCTTCAAAACAAATCGAAAAGTAACCGTTAAGCAATTAAAAGAAGA TTATTTCAAAAAATAGAATGTTTTGATAGTGTTGAAATTTCAGGAGTTG AAGATAGATTTAATGCTTCATTAGGCGCCTACCATGATTTGCTAAAAATT ATTAAAGATAAAGATTTTTTTGGATAATGAAGAAAATGAAGATATCTTAGA GGATATTGTTTTAACATTGACCTTATTTGAAGATAGGGGGATGATTGAGG AAAGACTTAAAACATATGCTCACCTCTTTGATGATAAGGTGATGAAACAG CTTAAACGTCGCCGTTATACTGGTTGGGGACGTTTGTCTCGAAAATTGAT TAATGGTATTAGGGATAAGCAATCTGGCAAAACAATATTAGATTTTTTGA AATCAGATGGTTTTGCCAATCGCAATTTTATGCAGCTGATCCATGATGAT AGTTTGACATTTAAAGAAGATATTCAAAAAGCACAGGTGTCTGGACAAGG CCATAGTTTACATGAACAGATTGCTAACTTAGCTGGCAGTCCTGCTATTA AAAAAGGTATTTTACAGACTGTAAAAATTGTTGATGAACTGGTCAAAGTA ATGGGGCATAAGCCAGAAAATATCGTTATTGAAATGGCACGTGAAAATCA GACAACTCAAAAGGGCCAGAAAATTCGCGAGAGCGTATGAAACGAATCG AAGAAGGTATCAAAGAATTAGGAAGTCAGATTCTTAAAGAGCATCCTGTT GAAAATACTCAATTGCAAAATGAAAAGCTCTATCTCTATTATCTACAAAA TGGAAGAGACATGTATGTGGACCAAGAATTAGATATTAATCGTTTAAGTG ATTATGATGTCGATCACATTGTTCCACAAAGTTTCATTAAAGACGATTCA ATAGACAATAAGGTACTAACGCGTTCTGATAAAAATCGTGGTAAATCGGA TAACGTTCCAAGTGAAGAAGTAGTCAAAAAGATGAAAAACTATTGGAGAC ${\tt AACTTCTAAACGCCAAGTTAATCACTCAACGTAAGTTTGATAATTTAACG}$ AAAGCTGAACGTGGAGGTTTGAGTGAACTTGATAAAGCTGGTTTTATCAA ACGCCAATTGGTTGAAACTCGCCAAATCACTAAGCATGTGGCACAAATTT TGGATAGTCGCATGAATACTAAATACGATGAAAATGATAAACTTATTCGA GAGGTTAAAGTGATTACCTTAAAATCTAAATTAGTTTCTGACTTCCGAAA AGATTTCCAATTCTATAAAGTACGTGAGATTAACAATTACCATCATGCCC ${\tt ATGATGCGTATCTAAATGCCGTCGTTGGAACTGCTTTGATTAAGAAATAT}$ CCAAAACTTGAATCGGAGTTTGTCTATGGTGATTATAAAGTTTATGATGT TCGTAAAATGATTGCTAAGTCTGAGCAAGAAATAGGCAAAGCAACCGCAA AATATTTCTTTTACTCTAATATCATGAACTTCTTCAAAACAGAAATTACA CTTGCAAATGGAGAGATTCGCAAACGCCCTCTAATCGAAACTAATGGGGA $\verb|AACTGGAGAAATTGTCTGGGATAAAGGGCGAGATTTTGCCACAGTGCGCA|$ AAGTATTGTCCATGCCCCAAGTCAATATTGTCAAGAAAACAGAAGTACAG ACAGGCGGATTCTCCAAGGAGTCAATTTTACCAAAAAGAAATTCGGACAA GCTTATTGCTCGTAAAAAAGACTGGGATCCAAAAAAATATGGTGGTTTTG ATAGTCCAACGGTAGCTTATTCAGTCCTAGTGGTTGCTAAGGTGGAAAAA GGGAAATCGAAGAAGTTAAAATCCGTTAAAGAGTTACTAGGGATCACAAT TATGGAAAGAATTCCTTTGAAAAAATCCGATTGACTTTTTAGAAGCTA AAGGATATAAGGAAGTTAAAAAAAGACTTAATCATTAAACTACCTAAATAT ${\tt AGTCTTTTGAGTTAGAAAACGGTCGTAAACGGATGCTGGCTAGTGCCGG}$ AGAATTACAAAAAGGAAATGAGCTGGCTCTGCCAAGCAAATATGTGAATT

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TTTTATATTTAGCTAGTCATTATGAAAAGTTGAAGGGTAGTCCAGAAGAT
AACGAACAAAAACAATTGTTTGTGGAGCAGCATAAGCATTATTTAGATGA
GATTATTGAGCAAATCAGTGAATTTTCTAAGCGGTGTTATTTTAGCAGATG
CCAATTTAGATAAAGTTCTTAGTGCATATAACAAACATAGAGACAAACCA
ATACGTGAACAAGCAGAAAATATTATTCATTTATTTACGTTGACGAATCT
TGGAGCTCCCGCTGCTTTTAAATATTTTTGATACAACAATTGATCGTAAAC
GATATACGTCTACAAAAGAAGTTTTAGATGCCACTCTTATCCATCAATCC
ATCACTGGTCTTTATGAAACACGCATTGATTGAGTCAGCTAGGAGGTGA
CTCA

(SEQ ID NO: 41) 10 MDKKYSIGLDIGTNSVGWAVITDDYKVPSKKFKVLGNTDRHSIKKNLIGA LLFGSGETAEATRLKRTARRRYTRRKNRICYLQEIFSNEMAKVDDSFFHR LEESFLVEEDKKHERHPIFGNIVDEVAYHEKYPTIYHLRKKLADSTDKAD LRLIYLALAHMIKFRGHFLIEGDLNPDNSDVDKLFIOLVOIYNOLFEENP INASRVDAKAILSARLSKSRRLENLIAQLPGEKRNGLFGNLIALSLGLTP NFKSNFDLAEDAKLQLSKDTYDDDLDNLLAQIGDQYADLFLAAKNLSDAI LLSDILRVNSEITKAPLSASMIKRYDEHHODLTLLKALVROOLPEKYKEI FFDOSKNGYAGYIDGGASOEEFYKFIKPILEKMDGTEELLVKLNREDLLR KORTFDNGSIPHOIHLGELHAILRROEDFYPFLKDNREKIEKILTFRIPY YVGPLARGNSRFAWMTRKSEETITPWNFEEVVDKGASAOSFIERMTNFDK NLPNEKVLPKHSLLYEYFTVYNELTKVKYVTEGMRKPAFLSGEOKKAIVD LIJEKTNRKVTVKOLKEDYFKKTECFDSVETSGVEDRENASLGAYHDIJJKT IKDKDFLDNEENEDILEDIVLTLTLFEDRGMIEERLKTYAHLFDDKVMKO LKRRRYTGWGRLSRKLINGIRDKOSGKTILDFLKSDGFANRNFMOLIHDD SLTFKEDIOKAOVSGOGHSLHEOIANLAGSPAIKKGILOTVKIVDELVKV MGHKPENIVIEMARENOTTOKGOKNSRERMKRIEEGIKELGSOILKEHPV ENTOLONEKLYLYYLONGRDMYVDOELDINRLSDYDVDHIVPOSFIKDDS IDNKVLTRSDKNRGKSDNVPSEEVVKKMKNYWRQLLNAKLITQRKFDNLT KAERGGLSELDKAGFIKRQLVETRQITKHVAQILDSRMNTKYDENDKLIR EVKVITLKSKLVSDFRKDFQFYKVREINNYHHAHDAYLNAVVGTALIKKY PKLESEFVYGDYKVYDVRKMIAKSEQEIGKATAKYFFYSNIMNFFKTEIT LANGEIRKRPLIETNGETGEIVWDKGRDFATVRKVLSMPQVNIVKKTEVQ TGGFSKESILPKRNSDKLIARKKDWDPKKYGGFDSPTVAYSVLVVAKVEK GKSKKLKSVKELLGITIMERSSFEKNPIDFLEAKGYKEVKKDLIIKLPKY SLFELENGRKRMLASAGELQKGNELALPSKYVNFLYLASHYEKLKGSPED NEQKQLFVEQHKHYLDEIIEQISEFSKRVILADANLDKVLSAYNKHRDKP IREQAENIIHLFTLTNLGAPAAFKYFDTTIDRKRYTSTKEVLDATLIHQS ITGLYETRIDLSOLGGD

The term "concatemer," as used herein in the context of 35 nucleic acid molecules, refers to a nucleic acid molecule that contains multiple copies of the same DNA sequences linked in a series. For example, a concatemer comprising ten copies of a specific sequence of nucleotides (e.g., [XYZ]₁₀), would comprise ten copies of the same specific sequence linked to 40 each other in series, e.g., 5'-XYZXYZXYZXYZXYZXYZX-YZXYZXYZXYZXYZ-3'. A concatemer may comprise any number of copies of the repeat unit or sequence, e.g., at least 2 copies, at least 3 copies, at least 4 copies, at least 5 copies, at least 10 copies, at least 100 copies, at least 1000 copies, etc. An example of a concatemer of a nucleic acid sequence comprising a nuclease target site and a constant insert sequence would be [(target site)-(constant insert sequence)]300. A concatemer may be a linear nucleic acid molecule, or may be circular.

The terms "conjugating," "conjugated," and "conjugation" refer to an association of two entities, for example, of two molecules such as two proteins, two domains (e.g., a binding domain and a cleavage domain), or a protein and an agent, e.g., a protein binding domain and a small molecule. In some aspects, the association is between a protein (e.g., RNAprogrammable nuclease) and a nucleic acid (e.g., a guide RNA). The association can be, for example, via a direct or indirect (e.g., via a linker) covalent linkage or via non-covalent interactions. In some embodiments, the association is covalent. In some embodiments, two molecules are conjugated via a linker connecting both molecules. For example, in some embodiments where two proteins are conjugated to each other, e.g., a binding domain and a cleavage domain of an engineered nuclease, to form a protein fusion, the two proteins may be conjugated via a polypeptide linker, e.g., an amino acid sequence connecting the C-terminus of one protein to the N-terminus of the other protein.

The term "consensus sequence," as used herein in the context of nucleic acid sequences, refers to a calculated sequence representing the most frequent nucleotide residues found at each position in a plurality of similar sequences. Typically, a consensus sequence is determined by sequence alignment in 5 which similar sequences are compared to each other and similar sequence motifs are calculated. In the context of nuclease target site sequences, a consensus sequence of a nuclease target site may, in some embodiments, be the sequence most frequently bound, or bound with the highest 10 affinity, by a given nuclease. With respect to RNA-programmable nuclease (e.g., Cas9) target site sequences, the consensus sequence may, in some embodiments, be the sequence or region to which a gRNA, or a plurality of gRNAs, is expected or designed to bind, e.g., based on complementary base pair- 15 ing.

The term "effective amount," as used herein, refers to an amount of a biologically active agent that is sufficient to elicit a desired biological response. For example, in some embodiments, an effective amount of a nuclease may refer to the 20 amount of the nuclease that is sufficient to induce cleavage of a target site specifically bound and cleaved by the nuclease. As will be appreciated by the skilled artisan, the effective amount of an agent, e.g., a nuclease, a hybrid protein, or a polynucleotide, may vary depending on various factors as, for example, on the desired biological response, the specific allele, genome, target site, cell, or tissue being targeted, and the agent being used.

The term "enediyne," as used herein, refers to a class of bacterial natural products characterized by either nine- and 30 ten-membered rings containing two triple bonds separated by a double bond (see, e.g., K. C. Nicolaou; A. L. Smith; E. W. Yue (1993). "Chemistry and biology of natural and designed enediynes". PNAS 90 (13): 5881-5888; the entire contents of which are incorporated herein by reference). Some enedignes 35 are capable of undergoing Bergman cyclization, and the resulting diradical, a 1,4-dehydrobenzene derivative, is capable of abstracting hydrogen atoms from the sugar backbone of DNA which results in DNA strand cleavage (see, e.g., S. Walker; R. Landovitz; W. D. Ding; G. A. Ellestad; D. 40 Kahne (1992). "Cleavage behavior of calicheamicin gamma 1 and calicheamicin T". Proc Natl Acad Sci U.S.A. 89 (10): 4608-12; the entire contents of which are incorporated herein by reference). Their reactivity with DNA confers an antibiotic character to many enediynes, and some enediynes are clini- 45 cally investigated as anticancer antibiotics. Nonlimiting examples of enedivnes are dynemicin, neocarzinostatin, calicheamicin, esperamicin (see, e.g., Adrian L. Smith and K. C. Bicolaou, "The Enediyne Antibiotics" J. Med. Chem., 1996, 39 (11), pp 2103-2117; and Donald Borders, "Enediyne anti- 50 biotics as antitumor agents," Informa Healthcare; 1st edition (Nov. 23, 1994, ISBN-10: 0824789385; the entire contents of which are incorporated herein by reference).

The term "homing endonuclease," as used herein, refers to a type of restriction enzymes typically encoded by introns or 55 inteins Edgell DR (February 2009). "Selfish DNA: homing endonucleases find a home". *Curr Biol* 19 (3): R115-R117; Jasin M (June 1996). "Genetic manipulation of genomes with rare-cutting endonucleases". *Trends Genet* 12 (6): 224-8; Burt A, Koufopanou V (December 2004). "Homing endonuclease genes: the rise and fall and rise again of a selfish element". *Curr Opin Genet Dev* 14 (6): 609-15; the entire contents of which are incorporated herein by reference. Homing endonuclease recognition sequences are long enough to occur randomly only with a very low probability (approximately once every 7×10^{10} bp), and are normally found in only one instance per genome.

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The term "library," as used herein in the context of nucleic acids or proteins, refers to a population of two or more different nucleic acids or proteins, respectively. For example, a library of nuclease target sites comprises at least two nucleic acid molecules comprising different nuclease target sites. In some embodiments, a library comprises at least 10¹, at least 10^2 , at least 10^3 , at least 10^4 , at least 10^{10} , at least 10^{11} , at nucleic acids or proteins. In some embodiments, the members of the library may comprise randomized sequences, for example, fully or partially randomized sequences. In some embodiments, the library comprises nucleic acid molecules that are unrelated to each other, e.g., nucleic acids comprising fully randomized sequences. In other embodiments, at least some members of the library may be related, for example, they may be variants or derivatives of a particular sequence, such as a consensus target site sequence.

The term "linker," as used herein, refers to a chemical group or a molecule linking two adjacent molecules or moieties, e.g., a binding domain and a cleavage domain of a nuclease. Typically, the linker is positioned between, or flanked by, two groups, molecules, or other moieties and connected to each one via a covalent bond, thus connecting the two. In some embodiments, the linker is an amino acid or a plurality of amino acids (e.g., a peptide or protein). In some embodiments, the linker is an organic molecule, group, polymer, or chemical moiety.

The term "nuclease," as used herein, refers to an agent, for example a protein or a small molecule, capable of cleaving a phosphodiester bond connecting nucleotide residues in a nucleic acid molecule. In some embodiments, a nuclease is a protein, e.g., an enzyme that can bind a nucleic acid molecule and cleave a phosphodiester bond connecting nucleotide residues within the nucleic acid molecule. A nuclease may be an endonuclease, cleaving a phosphodiester bonds within a polynucleotide chain, or an exonuclease, cleaving a phosphodiester bond at the end of the polynucleotide chain. In some embodiments, a nuclease is a site-specific nuclease, binding and/or cleaving a specific phosphodiester bond within a specific nucleotide sequence, which is also referred to herein as the "recognition sequence," the "nuclease target site," or the "target site." In some embodiments, a nuclease is a RNA-guided (i.e., RNA-programmable) nuclease, which complexes with (e.g., binds with) an RNA having a sequence that complements a target site, thereby providing the sequence specificity of the nuclease. In some embodiments, a nuclease recognizes a single stranded target site, while in other embodiments, a nuclease recognizes a double-stranded target site, for example a double-stranded DNA target site. The target sites of many naturally occurring nucleases, for example, many naturally occurring DNA restriction nucleases, are well known to those of skill in the art. In many cases, a DNA nuclease, such as EcoRI, HindIII, or BamHI, recognize a palindromic, double-stranded DNA target site of 4 to 10 base pairs in length, and cut each of the two DNA strands at a specific position within the target site. Some endonucleases cut a double-stranded nucleic acid target site symmetrically, i.e., cutting both strands at the same position so that the ends comprise base-paired nucleotides, also referred to herein as blunt ends. Other endonucleases cut a double-stranded nucleic acid target sites asymmetrically, i.e., cutting each strand at a different position so that the ends comprise unpaired nucleotides. Unpaired nucleotides at the end of a double-stranded DNA molecule are also referred to as "overhangs," e.g., as "5'-overhang" or as "3'-overhang," depending on whether the unpaired nucleotide(s) form(s) the

5' or the 3' end of the respective DNA strand. Double-stranded DNA molecule ends ending with unpaired nucleotide(s) are also referred to as sticky ends, as they can "stick to" other double-stranded DNA molecule ends comprising complementary unpaired nucleotide(s). A nuclease protein typically comprises a "binding domain" that mediates the interaction of the protein with the nucleic acid substrate, and also, in some cases, specifically binds to a target site, and a "cleavage domain" that catalyzes the cleavage of the phosphodiester bond within the nucleic acid backbone. In some embodiments 10 a nuclease protein can bind and cleave a nucleic acid molecule in a monomeric form, while, in other embodiments, a nuclease protein has to dimerize or multimerize in order to cleave a target nucleic acid molecule. Binding domains and cleavage domains of naturally occurring nucleases, as well as 15 modular binding domains and cleavage domains that can be fused to create nucleases binding specific target sites, are well known to those of skill in the art. For example, zinc fingers or transcriptional activator like elements can be used as binding domains to specifically bind a desired target site, and fused or 20 conjugated to a cleavage domain, for example, the cleavage domain of FokI, to create an engineered nuclease cleaving the

The terms "nucleic acid" and "nucleic acid molecule," as used herein, refer to a compound comprising a nucleobase 25 and an acidic moiety, e.g., a nucleoside, a nucleotide, or a polymer of nucleotides. Typically, polymeric nucleic acids, e.g., nucleic acid molecules comprising three or more nucleotides are linear molecules, in which adjacent nucleotides are linked to each other via a phosphodiester linkage. In some 30 embodiments, "nucleic acid" refers to individual nucleic acid residues (e.g. nucleotides and/or nucleosides). In some embodiments, "nucleic acid" refers to an oligonucleotide chain comprising three or more individual nucleotide residues. As used herein, the terms "oligonucleotide" and "poly-35 nucleotide" can be used interchangeably to refer to a polymer of nucleotides (e.g., a string of at least three nucleotides). In some embodiments, "nucleic acid" encompasses RNA as well as single and/or double-stranded DNA. Nucleic acids may be naturally occurring, for example, in the context of a 40 genome, a transcript, an mRNA, tRNA, rRNA, siRNA, snRNA, a plasmid, cosmid, chromosome, chromatid, or other naturally occurring nucleic acid molecule. On the other hand, a nucleic acid molecule may be a non-naturally occurring molecule, e.g., a recombinant DNA or RNA, an artificial 45 chromosome, an engineered genome, or fragment thereof, or a synthetic DNA, RNA, DNA/RNA hybrid, or including nonnaturally occurring nucleotides or nucleosides. Furthermore, the terms "nucleic acid," "DNA," "RNA," and/or similar terms include nucleic acid analogs, i.e. analogs having other 50 than a phosphodiester backbone. Nucleic acids can be purified from natural sources, produced using recombinant expression systems and optionally purified, chemically synthesized, etc. Where appropriate, e.g., in the case of chemically synthesized molecules, nucleic acids can comprise 55 nucleoside analogs such as analogs having chemically modified bases or sugars, and backbone modifications. A nucleic acid sequence is presented in the 5' to 3' direction unless otherwise indicated. In some embodiments, a nucleic acid is or comprises natural nucleosides (e.g. adenosine, thymidine, 60 guanosine, cytidine, uridine, deoxyadenosine, deoxythymidine, deoxyguanosine, and deoxycytidine); nucleoside analogs (e.g., 2-aminoadenosine, 2-thiothymidine, inosine, pyrrolo-pyrimidine, 3-methyl adenosine, 5-methylcytidine, 2-aminoadenosine, C5-bromouridine, C5-fluorouridine, 65 C5-iodouridine, C5-propynyl-uridine, C5-propynyl-cytidine, C5-methylcytidine, 2-aminoadenosine, 7-deazaadenos18

ine, 7-deazaguanosine, 8-oxoadenosine, 8-oxoguanosine, O(6)-methylguanine, and 2-thiocytidine); chemically modified bases; biologically modified bases (e.g., methylated bases); intercalated bases; modified sugars (e.g., 2'-fluororibose, ribose, 2'-deoxyribose, arabinose, and hexose); and/or modified phosphate groups (e.g., phosphorothioates and 5'-N-phosphoramidite linkages).

The term "pharmaceutical composition," as used herein, refers to a composition that can be administrated to a subject in the context of treatment of a disease or disorder. In some embodiments, a pharmaceutical composition comprises an active ingredient, e.g., a nuclease or a nucleic acid encoding a nuclease, and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

The term "proliferative disease," as used herein, refers to any disease in which cell or tissue homeostasis is disturbed in that a cell or cell population exhibits an abnormally elevated proliferation rate. Proliferative diseases include hyperproliferative diseases, such as pre-neoplastic hyperplastic conditions and neoplastic diseases. Neoplastic diseases are characterized by an abnormal proliferation of cells and include both benign and malignant neoplasias. Malignant neoplasia is also referred to as cancer.

The terms "protein," "peptide," and "polypeptide" are used interchangeably herein, and refer to a polymer of amino acid residues linked together by peptide (amide) bonds. The terms refer to a protein, peptide, or polypeptide of any size, structure, or function. Typically, a protein, peptide, or polypeptide will be at least three amino acids long. A protein, peptide, or polypeptide may refer to an individual protein or a collection of proteins. One or more of the amino acids in a protein, peptide, or polypeptide may be modified, for example, by the addition of a chemical entity such as a carbohydrate group, a hydroxyl group, a phosphate group, a farnesyl group, an isofarnesyl group, a fatty acid group, a linker for conjugation, functionalization, or other modification, etc. A protein, peptide, or polypeptide may also be a single molecule or may be a multi-molecular complex. A protein, peptide, or polypeptide may be just a fragment of a naturally occurring protein or peptide. A protein, peptide, or polypeptide may be naturally occurring, recombinant, or synthetic, or any combination thereof. A protein may comprise different domains, for example, a nucleic acid binding domain and a nucleic acid cleavage domain. In some embodiments, a protein comprises a proteinaceous part, e.g., an amino acid sequence constituting a nucleic acid binding domain, and an organic compound, e.g., a compound that can act as a nucleic acid cleavage agent. In some embodiments, a protein is in a complex with, or is in association with, a nucleic acid, e.g., RNA.

The term "randomized," as used herein in the context of nucleic acid sequences, refers to a sequence or residue within a sequence that has been synthesized to incorporate a mixture of free nucleotides, for example, a mixture of all four nucleotides A, T, G, and C. Randomized residues are typically represented by the letter N within a nucleotide sequence. In some embodiments, a randomized sequence or residue is fully randomized, in which case the randomized residues are synthesized by adding equal amounts of the nucleotides to be incorporated (e.g., 25% T, 25% A, 25% G, and 25% C) during the synthesis step of the respective sequence residue. In some embodiments, a randomized sequence or residue is partially randomized, in which case the randomized residues are synthesized by adding non-equal amounts of the nucleotides to be incorporated (e.g., 79% T, 7% A, 7% G, and 7% C) during the synthesis step of the respective sequence residue. Partial randomization allows for the generation of sequences that are templated on a given sequence, but have incorporated mutations at a desired frequency. For example, if a known nuclease

target site is used as a synthesis template, partial randomization in which at each step the nucleotide represented at the respective residue is added to the synthesis at 79%, and the other three nucleotides are added at 7% each, will result in a mixture of partially randomized target sites being synthe- 5 sized, which still represent the consensus sequence of the original target site, but which differ from the original target site at each residue with a statistical frequency of 21% for each residue so synthesized (distributed binomially). In some embodiments, a partially randomized sequence differs from 10 the consensus sequence by more than 5%, more than 10%, more than 15%, more than 20%, more than 25%, or more than 30% on average, distributed binomially. In some embodiments, a partially randomized sequence differs from the consensus site by no more than 10%, no more than 15%, no more 15 than 20%, no more than 25%, nor more than 30%, no more than 40%, or no more than 50% on average, distributed binomially.

The term "RNA-programmable nuclease," and "RNAguided nuclease" are used interchangeably herein and refer to 20 a nuclease that forms a complex with (e.g., binds or associates with) one or more RNA that is not a target for cleavage. In some embodiments, an RNA-programmable nuclease, when in a complex with an RNA, may be referred to as a nuclease: RNA complex. Typically, the bound RNA(s) is referred to as 25 a guide RNA (gRNA) or a single-guide RNA (sgRNA). The gRNA/sgRNA comprises a nucleotide sequence that complements a target site, which mediates binding of the nuclease/ RNA complex to said target site and providing the sequence specificity of the nuclease:RNA complex. In some embodi- 30 ments, the RNA-programmable nuclease is the (CRISPRassociated system) Cas9 endonuclease, for example Cas9 (Csn1) from Streptococcus pyogenes (see, e.g., "Complete genome sequence of an M1 strain of Streptococcus pyogenes." Ferretti J. J., McShan W. M., Ajdic D. J., Savic D. J., 35 Savic G., Lyon K., Primeaux C., Sezate S., Suvorov A. N., Kenton S., Lai H. S., Lin S. P., Qian Y., Jia H. G., Najar F. Z., Ren Q., Zhu H., Song L. expand/collapse author list McLaughlin R. E., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A. 98:4658-4663(2001); "CRISPR RNA maturation by trans-encoded 40 small RNA and host factor RNase III." Deltcheva E., Chylinski K., Sharma C. M., Gonzales K., Chao Y., Pirzada Z. A., Eckert M. R., Vogel J., Charpentier E., Nature 471:602-607 (2011); and "A programmable dual-RNA-guided DNA endonuclease in adaptive bacterial immunity." Jinek M., Chylinski 45 K., Fonfara I., Hauer M., Doudna J. A., Charpentier E. Science 337:816-821(2012), the entire contents of each of which are incorporated herein by reference

Because RNA-programmable nucleases (e.g., Cas9) use RNA:DNA hybridization to determine target DNA cleavage 50 sites, these proteins are able to cleave, in principle, any sequence specified by the guide RNA. Methods of using RNA-programmable nucleases, such as Cas9, for site-specific cleavage (e.g., to modify a genome) are known in the art (See e.g., Cong, L. et al. Multiplex genome engineering using 55 CRISPR/Cas systems. Science 339, 819-823 (2013); Mali, P. et al. RNA-guided human genome engineering via Cas9. Science 339, 823-826 (2013); Hwang, W. Y. et al. Efficient genome editing in zebrafish using a CRISPR-Cas system. Nature biotechnology 31, 227-229 (2013); Jinek, M. et al. 60 RNA-programmed genome editing in human cells. eLife 2, e00471 (2013); Dicarlo, J. E. et al. Genome engineering in Saccharomyces cerevisiae using CRISPR-Cas systems. Nucleic acids research (2013); Jiang, W. et al. RNA-guided editing of bacterial genomes using CRISPR-Cas systems. 65 Nature biotechnology 31, 233-239 (2013); the entire contents of each of which are incorporated herein by reference).

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The terms "small molecule" and "organic compound" are used interchangeably herein and refer to molecules, whether naturally-occurring or artificially created (e.g., via chemical synthesis) that have a relatively low molecular weight. Typically, an organic compound contains carbon. An organic compound may contain multiple carbon-carbon bonds, stereocenters, and other functional groups (e.g., amines, hydroxyl, carbonyls, or heterocyclic rings). In some embodiments, organic compounds are monomeric and have a molecular weight of less than about 1500 g/mol. In certain embodiments, the molecular weight of the small molecule is less than about 1000 g/mol or less than about 500 g/mol. In certain embodiments, the small molecule is a drug, for example, a drug that has already been deemed safe and effective for use in humans or animals by the appropriate governmental agency or regulatory body. In certain embodiments, the organic molecule is known to bind and/or cleave a nucleic acid. In some embodiments, the organic compound is an enediyne. In some embodiments, the organic compound is an antibiotic drug, for example, an anticancer antibiotic such as dynemicin, neocarzinostatin, calicheamicin, esperamicin, bleomycin, or a derivative thereof.

The term "subject," as used herein, refers to an individual organism, for example, an individual mammal. In some embodiments, the subject is a human. In some embodiments, the subject is a non-human mammal. In some embodiments, the subject is a non-human primate. In some embodiments, the subject is a rodent. In some embodiments, the subject is a sheep, a goat, a cattle, a cat, or a dog. In some embodiments, the subject is a vertebrate, an amphibian, a reptile, a fish, an insect, a fly, or a nematode.

The terms "target nucleic acid," and "target genome," as used herein in the context of nucleases, refer to a nucleic acid molecule or a genome, respectively, that comprises at least one target site of a given nuclease.

The term "target site," used herein interchangeably with the term "nuclease target site," refers to a sequence within a nucleic acid molecule that is bound and cleaved by a nuclease. A target site may be single-stranded or double-stranded. In the context of nucleases that dimerize, for example, nucleases comprising a FokI DNA cleavage domain, a target sites typically comprises a left-half site (bound by one monomer of the nuclease), a right-half site (bound by the second monomer of the nuclease), and a spacer sequence between the half sites in which the cut is made. This structure ([left-half site]-[spacer sequence]-[right-half site]) is referred to herein as an LSR structure. In some embodiments, the left-half site and/or the right-half site is between 10-18 nucleotides long. In some embodiments, either or both half-sites are shorter or longer. In some embodiments, the left and right half sites comprise different nucleic acid sequences. In the context of zinc finger nucleases, target sites may, in some embodiments comprise two half-sites that are each 6-18 bp long flanking a nonspecified spacer region that is 4-8 bp long. In the context of TALENs, target sites may, in some embodiments, comprise two half-sites sites that are each 10-23 bp long flanking a non-specified spacer region that is 10-30 bp long. In the context of RNA-guided (e.g., RNA-programmable) nucleases, a target site typically comprises a nucleotide sequence that is complementary to the sgRNA of the RNAprogrammable nuclease, and a protospacer adjacent motif (PAM) at the 3' end adjacent to the sgRNA-complementary sequence. For the RNA-guided nuclease Cas9, the target site may be, in some embodiments, 20 base pairs plus a 3 base pair PAM (e.g., NNN, wherein N represents any nucleotide). Typically, the first nucleotide of a PAM can be any nucleotide, while the two downstream nucleotides are specified depend-

ing on the specific RNA-guided nuclease. Exemplary target sites for RNA-guided nucleases, such as Cas9, are known to those of skill in the art and include, without limitation, NNG, NGN, NAG, and NGG, wherein N represents any nucleotide. In addition, Cas9 nucleases from different species (e.g., S. 5 thermophilus instead of S. pyogenes) recognizes a PAM that comprises the sequence NGGNG. Additional PAM sequences are known, including, but not limited to NNA-GAAW and NAAR (see, e.g., Esvelt and Wang, Molecular Systems Biology, 9:641 (2013), the entire contents of which are incorporated herein by reference). For example, the target site of an RNA-guided nuclease, such as, e.g., Cas9, may comprise the structure [Nz]-[PAM], where each N is, independently, any nucleotide, and z is an integer between 1 and 50. In some embodiments, z is at least 2, at least 3, at least 4, 15 at least 5, at least 6, at least 7, at least 8, at least 9, at least 10, at least 11, at least 12, at least 13, at least 14, at least 15, at least 16, at least 17, at least 18, at least 19, at least 20, at least 25, at least 30, at least 35, at least 40, at least 45, or at least 50. In some embodiments, z is 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 20 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, or 50. In some embodiments, Z is 20.

The term "Transcriptional Activator-Like Effector," (TALE) as used herein, refers to bacterial proteins comprising 25 a DNA binding domain, which contains a highly conserved 33-34 amino acid sequence comprising a highly variable two-amino acid motif (Repeat Variable Diresidue, RVD). The RVD motif determines binding specificity to a nucleic acid sequence, and can be engineered according to methods well 30 known to those of skill in the art to specifically bind a desired DNA sequence (see, e.g., Miller, Jeffrey; et. al. (February 2011). "A TALE nuclease architecture for efficient genome editing". Nature Biotechnology 29 (2): 143-8; Zhang, Feng; et. al. (February 2011). "Efficient construction of sequence- 35 specific TAL effectors for modulating mammalian transcription". Nature Biotechnology 29 (2): 149-53; Geißler, R.; Scholze, H.; Hahn, S.; Streubel, J.; Bonas, U.; Behrens, S. E.; Boch, J. (2011), Shiu, Shin-Han. ed. "Transcriptional Activators of Human Genes with Programmable DNA-Specificity". 40 PLoS ONE 6 (5): e19509; Boch, Jens (February 2011). "TALEs of genome targeting". Nature Biotechnology 29 (2): 135-6; Boch, Jens; et. al. (December 2009). "Breaking the Code of DNA Binding Specificity of TAL-Type III Effectors". Science 326 (5959): 1509-12; and Moscou, Matthew J.; 45 Adam J. Bogdanove (December 2009). "A Simple Cipher Governs DNA Recognition by TAL Effectors". Science 326 (5959): 1501; the entire contents of each of which are incorporated herein by reference). The simple relationship between amino acid sequence and DNA recognition has 50 allowed for the engineering of specific DNA binding domains by selecting a combination of repeat segments containing the appropriate RVDs.

The term "Transcriptional Activator-Like Element Nuclease," (TALEN) as used herein, refers to an artificial 55 nuclease comprising a transcriptional activator like effector DNA binding domain to a DNA cleavage domain, for example, a FokI domain. A number of modular assembly schemes for generating engineered TALE constructs have been reported (see e.g., Zhang, Feng; et. al. (February 2011). "Efficient construction of sequence-specific TAL effectors for modulating mammalian transcription". Nature Biotechnology 29 (2): 149-53; Geiβler, R.; Scholze, H.; Hahn, S.; Streubel, J.; Bonas, U.; Behrens, S. E.; Boch, J. (2011), Shiu, Shin-Han. ed. "Transcriptional Activators of Human Genes 65 with Programmable DNA-Specificity". PLoS ONE 6 (5): e19509; Cermak, T.; Doyle, E. L.; Christian, M.; Wang, L.;

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Zhang, Y.; Schmidt, C.; Baller, J. A.; Somia, N. V. et al. (2011). "Efficient design and assembly of custom TALEN and other TAL effector-based constructs for DNA targeting". *Nucleic Acids Research*; Morbitzer, R.; Elsaesser, J.; Hausner, J.; Lahaye, T. (2011). "Assembly of custom TALE-type DNA binding domains by modular cloning". *Nucleic Acids Research*; Li, T.; Huang, S.; Zhao, X.; Wright, D. A.; Carpenter, S.; Spalding, M. H.; Weeks, D. P.; Yang, B. (2011). "Modularly assembled designer TAL effector nucleases for targeted gene knockout and gene replacement in eukaryotes". *Nucleic Acids Research.*; Weber, E.; Gruetzner, R.; Werner, S.; Engler, C.; Marillonnet, S. (2011). Bendahmane, Mohammed. ed. "Assembly of Designer TAL Effectors by Golden Gate Cloning". *PLoS ONE* 6 (5): e19722; the entire contents of each of which are incorporated herein by reference).

The terms "treatment," "treat," and "treating," refer to a clinical intervention aimed to reverse, alleviate, delay the onset of, or inhibit the progress of a disease or disorder, or one or more symptoms thereof, as described herein. As used herein, the terms "treatment," "treat," and "treating" refer to a clinical intervention aimed to reverse, alleviate, delay the onset of, or inhibit the progress of a disease or disorder, or one or more symptoms thereof, as described herein. In some embodiments, treatment may be administered after one or more symptoms have developed and/or after a disease has been diagnosed. In other embodiments, treatment may be administered in the absence of symptoms, e.g., to prevent or delay onset of a symptom or inhibit onset or progression of a disease. For example, treatment may be administered to a susceptible individual prior to the onset of symptoms (e.g., in light of a history of symptoms and/or in light of genetic or other susceptibility factors). Treatment may also be continued after symptoms have resolved, for example to prevent or delay their recurrence.

The term "zinc finger," as used herein, refers to a small nucleic acid-binding protein structural motif characterized by a fold and the coordination of one or more zinc ions that stabilize the fold. Zinc fingers encompass a wide variety of differing protein structures (see, e.g., Klug A, Rhodes D (1987). "Zinc fingers: a novel protein fold for nucleic acid recognition". Cold Spring Harb. Symp. Quant. Biol. 52: 473-82, the entire contents of which are incorporated herein by reference). Zinc fingers can be designed to bind a specific sequence of nucleotides, and zinc finger arrays comprising fusions of a series of zinc fingers, can be designed to bind virtually any desired target sequence. Such zinc finger arrays can form a binding domain of a protein, for example, of a nuclease, e.g., if conjugated to a nucleic acid cleavage domain. Different type of zinc finger motifs are known to those of skill in the art, including, but not limited to, Cys₂His₂, Gag knuckle, Treble clef, Zinc ribbon, Zn₂/Cys₆, and TAZ2 domain-like motifs (see, e.g., Krishna S S, Majumdar I, Grishin N V (January 2003). "Structural classification of zinc fingers: survey and summary". Nucleic Acids Res. 31 (2): 532-50). Typically, a single zinc finger motif binds 3 or 4 nucleotides of a nucleic acid molecule. Accordingly, a zinc finger domain comprising 2 zinc finger motifs may bind 6-8 nucleotides, a zinc finger domain comprising 3 zinc finger motifs may bind 9-12 nucleotides, a zinc finger domain comprising 4 zinc finger motifs may bind 12-16 nucleotides, and so forth. Any suitable protein engineering technique can be employed to alter the DNA-binding specificity of zinc fingers and/or design novel zinc finger fusions to bind virtually any desired target sequence from 3-30 nucleotides in length (see, e.g., Pabo C O, Peisach E, Grant R A (2001). "Design and selection of novel cys2His2 Zinc finger proteins". Annual Review of Biochemistry 70: 313-340; Jamieson A C, Miller J

C, Pabo C O (2003). "Drug discovery with engineered zincfinger proteins". Nature Reviews Drug Discovery 2 (5): 361-368; and Liu Q, Segal D J, Ghiara J B, Barbas C F (May 1997). "Design of polydactyl zinc-finger proteins for unique addressing within complex genomes". Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. 5 U.S.A. 94 (11); the entire contents of each of which are incorporated herein by reference). Fusions between engineered zinc finger arrays and protein domains that cleave a nucleic acid can be used to generate a "zinc finger nuclease." A zinc finger nuclease typically comprises a zinc finger domain that 10 binds a specific target site within a nucleic acid molecule, and a nucleic acid cleavage domain that cuts the nucleic acid molecule within or in proximity to the target site bound by the binding domain. Typical engineered zinc finger nucleases comprise a binding domain having between 3 and 6 indi- 15 vidual zinc finger motifs and binding target sites ranging from 9 base pairs to 18 base pairs in length. Longer target sites are particularly attractive in situations where it is desired to bind and cleave a target site that is unique in a given genome.

The term "zinc finger nuclease," as used herein, refers to a 20 nuclease comprising a nucleic acid cleavage domain conjugated to a binding domain that comprises a zinc finger array. In some embodiments, the cleavage domain is the cleavage domain of the type II restriction endonuclease FokI. Zinc finger nucleases can be designed to target virtually any 25 desired sequence in a given nucleic acid molecule for cleavage, and the possibility to the design zinc finger binding domains to bind unique sites in the context of complex genomes allows for targeted cleavage of a single genomic site in living cells, for example, to achieve a targeted genomic 30 alteration of therapeutic value. Targeting a double-strand break to a desired genomic locus can be used to introduce frame-shift mutations into the coding sequence of a gene due to the error-prone nature of the non-homologous DNA repair pathway. Zinc finger nucleases can be generated to target a 35 site of interest by methods well known to those of skill in the art. For example, zinc finger binding domains with a desired specificity can be designed by combining individual zinc finger motifs of known specificity. The structure of the zinc finger protein Zif268 bound to DNA has informed much of 40 the work in this field and the concept of obtaining zinc fingers for each of the 64 possible base pair triplets and then mixing and matching these modular zinc fingers to design proteins with any desired sequence specificity has been described (Pavletich N P, Pabo C O (May 1991). "Zinc finger-DNA 45 recognition: crystal structure of a Zif268-DNA complex at 2.1 A". Science 252 (5007): 809-17, the entire contents of which are incorporated herein). In some embodiments, separate zinc fingers that each recognize a 3 base pair DNA sequence are combined to generate 3-, 4-, 5-, or 6-finger 50 arrays that recognize target sites ranging from 9 base pairs to 18 base pairs in length. In some embodiments, longer arrays are contemplated. In other embodiments, 2-finger modules recognizing 6-8 nucleotides are combined to generate 4-, 6-, or 8-zinc finger arrays. In some embodiments, bacterial or 55 phage display is employed to develop a zinc finger domain that recognizes a desired nucleic acid sequence, for example, a desired nuclease target site of 3-30 bp in length. Zinc finger nucleases, in some embodiments, comprise a zinc finger binding domain and a cleavage domain fused or otherwise 60 conjugated to each other via a linker, for example, a polypeptide linker. The length of the linker determines the distance of the cut from the nucleic acid sequence bound by the zinc finger domain. If a shorter linker is used, the cleavage domain will cut the nucleic acid closer to the bound nucleic acid sequence, while a longer linker will result in a greater distance between the cut and the bound nucleic acid sequence. In

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some embodiments, the cleavage domain of a zinc finger nuclease has to dimerize in order to cut a bound nucleic acid. In some such embodiments, the dimer is a heterodimer of two monomers, each of which comprise a different zinc finger binding domain. For example, in some embodiments, the dimer may comprise one monomer comprising zinc finger domain A conjugated to a FokI cleavage domain, and one monomer comprising zinc finger domain B conjugated to a FokI cleavage domain. In this nonlimiting example, zinc finger domain A binds a nucleic acid sequence on one side of the target site, zinc finger domain B binds a nucleic acid sequence on the other side of the target site, and the dimerize FokI domain cuts the nucleic acid in between the zinc finger domain binding sites.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF CERTAIN EMBODIMENTS OF THE INVENTION

Introduction

Site-specific nucleases are powerful tools for targeted genome modification in vitro or in vivo. Some site specific nucleases can theoretically achieve a level of specificity for a target cleavage site that would allow one to target a single unique site in a genome for cleavage without affecting any other genomic site. It has been reported that nuclease cleavage in living cells triggers a DNA repair mechanism that frequently results in a modification of the cleaved, repaired genomic sequence, for example, via homologous recombination. Accordingly, the targeted cleavage of a specific unique sequence within a genome opens up new avenues for gene targeting and gene modification in living cells, including cells that are hard to manipulate with conventional gene targeting methods, such as many human somatic or embryonic stem cells. Nuclease-mediated modification of disease-related sequences, e.g., the CCR-5 allele in HIV/AIDS patients, or of genes necessary for tumor neovascularization, can be used in the clinical context, and two site specific nucleases are currently in clinical trials.

One important aspect in the field of site-specific nucleasemediated modification are off-target nuclease effects, e.g., the cleavage of genomic sequences that differ from the intended target sequence by one or more nucleotides. Undesired side effects of off-target cleavage range from insertion into unwanted loci during a gene targeting event to severe complications in a clinical scenario. Off-target cleavage of sequences encoding essential gene functions or tumor suppressor genes by an endonuclease administered to a subject may result in disease or even death of the subject. Accordingly, it is desirable to characterize the cleavage preferences of a nuclease before using it in the laboratory or the clinic in order to determine its efficacy and safety. Further, the characterization of nuclease cleavage properties allows for the selection of the nuclease best suited for a specific task from a group of candidate nucleases, or for the selection of evolution products obtained from a plurality of nucleases. Such a characterization of nuclease cleavage properties may also inform the de-novo design of nucleases with enhanced properties, such as enhanced specificity or efficiency.

In many scenarios where a nuclease is employed for the targeted manipulation of a nucleic acid, cleavage specificity is a crucial feature. The imperfect specificity of some engineered nuclease binding domains can lead to off-target cleavage and undesired effects both in vitro and in vivo. Current methods of evaluating site-specific nuclease specificity, including ELISA assays, microarrays, one-hybrid systems, SELEX, and its variants, and Rosetta-based computational

predictions, are all premised on the assumption that the binding specificity of the nuclease is equivalent or proportionate to their cleavage specificity.

It was previously discovered that the prediction of nuclease off-target binding effects constitute an imperfect approximation of a nuclease's off-target cleavage effects that may result in undesired biological effects (see PCT Application WO 2013/066438; and Pattanayak, V., Ramirez, C. L., Joung, J. K. & Liu, D. R. Revealing off-target cleavage specificities of zinc-finger nucleases by in vitro selection. *Nature methods* 8, 765-770 (2011), the entire contents of each of which are incorporated herein by reference). This finding was consistent with the notion that the reported toxicity of some site specific DNA nucleases results from off-target DNA cleavage, rather than off-target binding alone.

The methods and reagents of the present disclosure represent, in some aspects, an improvement over previous methods and allow for an accurate evaluation of a given nuclease's target site specificity and provide strategies for the selection 20 of suitable unique target sites and the design or selection of highly specific nucleases for the targeted cleavage of a single site in the context of a complex genome. For example, some previously reported methods for determining nuclease target site specificity profiles by screening libraries of nucleic acid 25 molecules comprising candidate target sites relied on a "twocut" in vitro selection method which requires indirect reconstruction of target sites from sequences of two half-sites resulting from two adjacent cuts of the nuclease of a library member nucleic acid (see e.g., Pattanayak, V. et al., Nature 30 Methods 8, 765-770 (2011)). In contrast to such "two-cut" strategies, the methods of the present disclosure utilize a "one cut" screening strategy, which allows for the identification of library members that have been cut at least once by the nuclease. The "one-cut" selection strategies provided herein 35 are compatible with single end high-throughput sequencing methods and do not require computational reconstruction of cleaved target sites from cut half-sites because they feature, in some embodiments, direct sequencing of an intact target nuclease sequence in a cut library member nucleic acid.

Additionally, the presently disclosed "one-cut" screening methods utilize concatemers of a candidate nuclease target site and constant insert region that are about 10-fold shorter than previously reported constructs used for two-cut strategies (~50 bp repeat sequence length versus ~500 bp repeat 45 sequence length in previous reports). This difference in repeat sequence length in the concatemers of the library allows for the generation of highly complex libraries of candidate nuclease target sites, e.g., of libraries comprising 10¹² different candidate nuclease target sequences. As described herein, 50 an exemplary library of such complexity has been generated, templated on a known Cas9 nuclease target site by varying the sequence of the known target site. The exemplary library demonstrated that a greater than 10-fold coverage of all sequences with eight or fewer mutations of the known target 55 site can be achieved using the strategies provided herein. The use of a shorter repeat sequence also allows the use of singleend sequencing, since both a cut half-site and an adjacent uncut site of the same library member are contained within a 100 nucleotide sequencing read.

The strategies, methods, libraries, and reagents provided herein can be utilized to analyze the sequence preferences and specificity of any site-specific nuclease, for example, to Zinc Finger Nucleases (ZFNs), Transcription Activator-Like Effector Nucleases (TALENs), homing endonucleases, 65 organic compound nucleases, and enediyne antibiotics (e.g., dynemicin, neocarzinostatin, calicheamicin, esperamicin,

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bleomycin). Suitable nucleases in addition to the ones described herein will be apparent to those of skill in the art based on this disclosure.

Further, the methods, reagents, and strategies provided herein allow those of skill in the art to identify, design, and/or select nucleases with enhanced specificity and minimize the off-target effects of any given nuclease (e.g., site-specific nucleases such as ZFNs, and TALENS which produce cleavage products with sticky ends, as well as RNA-programmable nucleases, for example Cas9, which produce cleavage products having blunt ends). While of particular relevance to DNA and DNA-cleaving nucleases, the inventive concepts, methods, strategies, and reagents provided herein are not limited in this respect, but can be applied to any nucleic acid:nuclease pair.

Identifying Nuclease Target Sites Cleaved by a Site-Specific Nuclease

Some aspects of this disclosure provide improved methods and reagents to determine the nucleic acid target sites cleaved by any site-specific nuclease. The methods provided herein can be used for the evaluation of target site preferences and specificity of both nucleases that create blunt ends and nucleases that create sticky ends. In general, such methods comprise contacting a given nuclease with a library of target sites under conditions suitable for the nuclease to bind and cut a target site, and determining which target sites the nuclease actually cuts. A determination of a nuclease's target site profile based on actual cutting has the advantage over methods that rely on binding in that it measures a parameter more relevant for mediating undesired off-target effects of sitespecific nucleases. In general, the methods provided herein comprise ligating an adapter of a known sequence to nucleic acid molecules that have been cut by a nuclease of interest via 5'-phosphate-dependent ligation. Accordingly, the methods provided herein are particularly useful for identifying target sites cut by nucleases that leave a phosphate moiety at the 5'-end of the cut nucleic acid strand when cleaving their target site. After ligating an adapter to the 5'-end of a cut nucleic acid strand, the cut strand can directly be sequenced using the adapter as a sequencing linker, or a part of the cut library member concatemer comprising an intact target site identical to the cut target site can be amplified via PCR and the amplification product can then be sequenced.

In some embodiments, the method comprises (a) providing a nuclease that cuts a double-stranded nucleic acid target site, wherein cutting of the target site results in cut nucleic acid strands comprising a 5'-phosphate moiety; (b) contacting the nuclease of (a) with a library of candidate nucleic acid molecules, wherein each nucleic acid molecule comprises a concatemer of a sequence comprising a candidate nuclease target site and a constant insert sequence, under conditions suitable for the nuclease to cut a candidate nucleic acid molecule comprising a target site of the nuclease; and (c) identifying nuclease target sites cut by the nuclease in (b) by determining the sequence of an uncut nuclease target site on the nucleic acid strand that was cut by the nuclease in step (b).

In some embodiments, the method comprises providing a nuclease and contacting the nuclease with a library of candidate nucleic acid molecules comprising candidate target sites. In some embodiments, the candidate nucleic acid molecules are double-stranded nucleic acid molecules. In some embodiments, the candidate nucleic acid molecules are DNA molecules. In some embodiments, each nucleic acid molecule in the library comprises a concatemer of a sequence comprising a candidate nuclease target site and a constant insert sequence. For example, in some embodiments, the library comprises nucleic acid molecules that comprise the structure

 $R_1\text{-}[(\text{candidate} \quad \text{nuclease} \quad \text{target} \quad \text{site})\text{-}(\text{constant} \quad \text{insert} \quad \text{sequence})]_n\text{-}R_2, \quad \text{wherein} \quad R_1 \quad \text{and} \quad R_2 \quad \text{are, independently,} \quad \text{nucleic acid sequences that may comprise a fragment of the} \quad [(\text{candidate nuclease target site})\text{-}(\text{constant insert sequence})] \quad \text{structure, and n is an integer between 2 and y. In some 5} \quad \text{embodiments, y is at least } 10^1, \quad \text{at least } 10^2, \quad \text{at least } 10^3, \quad \text{at least } 10^4, \quad \text{at least } 10^5, \quad \text{at least } 10^6, \quad \text{at least } 10^{12}, \quad \text{at least } 10^{13}, \quad \text{at least } 10^{14}, \quad \text{or at least } 10^{15}. \quad \text{In some embodiments, y is less than } 10^2, \quad \text{less than } 10^3, \quad \text{less than } 10^4, \quad \text{less than } 10^5, \quad \text{less than } 10^6, \quad \text{less than } 10^7, \quad \text{less than } 10^8, \quad \text{less than } 10^{10}, \quad \text{less than } 10^{11}, \quad \text{less than } 10^{12}, \quad \text{less than } 10^{13}, \quad \text{less than } 10^{14}, \quad \text{or less than } 10^{15}, \quad \text{less than } 10^{1$

For example, in some embodiments, the candidate nucleic acid molecules of the library comprise a candidate nuclease 15 target site of the structure [(N_z)-(PAM)], and, thus, the nucleic acid molecules of the library comprise the structure R_1 —[(N_z)-(PAM)-(constant region)]_x- R_2 , wherein R_1 and R₂ are, independently, nucleic acid sequences that may comprise a fragment of the $[(N_z)-(PAM)-(constant region)]$ repeat 20 unit; each N represents, independently, any nucleotide; Z is an integer between 1 and 50; and X is an integer between 2 and y. In some embodiments, y is at least 10^1 , at least 10^2 , at least 10^3 , at least 10^4 , at least 10^5 , at least 10^6 , at least 10^7 , at least 10^8 , at least 10^9 , at least 10^{10} , at least 10^{11} , at least 10^{12} , at 10^{12} , at least 10^{13} , at least 10^{14} , or at least 10^{15} . In some embodiments, y is less than 10^2 , less than 10^3 , less than 10^4 , less than 10^5 , less than 10^6 , less than 10^7 , less than 10^8 , less than 10^9 , less than 10^{10} , less than 10^{11} , less than 10^{12} , less than 10^{13} , less than 10^{14} , or less than 10^{15} . In some embodiments, Z is at 30 least 2, at least 3, at least 4, at least 5, at least 6, at least 7, at least 8, at least 9, at least 10, at least 11, at least 12, at least 13, at least 14, at least 15, at least 16, at least 17, at least 18, at least 19, at least 20, at least 25, at least 30, at least 35, at least 40, at least 45, or at least 50. In some embodiments, Z is 20. Each 35 N represents, independently, any nucleotide. Accordingly, a sequence provided as N_Z with z=2 would be NN, with each N, independently, representing \overline{A} , T, G, or C. Accordingly, N_Z with z=2 can represent AA, AT, AG, AC, TA, TT, TG, TC, GA, GT, GG, GC, CA, CT, CG, and CC.

In other embodiments, the candidate nucleic acid molecules of the library comprise a candidate nuclease target site of the structure [left-half site]-[spacer sequence]-[right-half site] ("LSR"), and, thus, the nucleic acid molecules of the library comprise the structure R₁-[(LSR)-(constant 45 region)]_X-R₂, wherein R₁ and R₂ are, independently, nucleic acid sequences that may comprise a fragment of the [(LSR)-(constant region)] repeat unit, and X is an integer between 2 and y. In some embodiments, y is at least 10¹, at least 10², at least 10^3 , at least 10^4 , at least 10^5 , at least 10^6 , at least 10^7 , at least 10^8 , at least 10^9 , at least 10^{10} , at least 10^{11} , at least 10^{12} , at least 10^{13} , at least 10^{14} , or at least 10^{15} . In some embodiments, y is less than 10^2 , less than 10^3 , less than 10^4 , less than 10^5 , less than 10^6 , less than 10^7 , less than 10^8 , less than 10^9 , less than 10^{10} , less than 10^{11} , less than 10^{12} , less than 10^{13} , 55 less than 10^{14} , or less than 10^{15} . The constant region, in some embodiments, is of a length that allows for efficient selfligation of a single repeat unit. Suitable lengths will be apparent to those of skill in the art. For example, in some embodiments, the constant region is between 5 and 100 base pairs 60 long, for example, about 5 base pairs, about 10 base pairs, about 15 base pairs, about 20 base pairs, about 25 base pairs, about 30 base pairs, about 35 base pairs, about 40 base pairs, about 50 base pairs, about 60 base pairs, about 70 base pairs, about 80 base pairs, about 90 base pairs, or about 100 base 65 pairs long. In some embodiments, the constant region is 16 base pairs long. In some embodiments, the nuclease cuts a

double-stranded nucleic acid target site and creates blunt ends. In other embodiments, the nuclease creates a 5'-over-hang. In some such embodiments, the target site comprises a [left-half site]-[spacer sequence]-[right-half site] (LSR) structure, and the nuclease cuts the target site within the spacer sequence.

In some embodiments, a nuclease cuts a double-stranded target site and creates blunt ends. In some embodiments, a nuclease cuts a double-stranded target site and creates an overhang, or sticky end, for example, a 5'-overhang. In some such embodiments, the method comprises filling in the 5'-overhangs of nucleic acid molecules produced from a nucleic acid molecule that has been cut once by the nuclease, wherein the nucleic acid molecules comprise a constant insert sequence flanked by a left or right half-site and cut spacer sequence on one side, and an uncut target site sequence on the other side, thereby creating blunt ends.

In some embodiments, the determining of step (c) comprises ligating a first nucleic acid adapter to the 5' end of a nucleic acid strand that was cut by the nuclease in step (b) via 5'-phosphate-dependent ligation. In some embodiments, the nuclease creates blunt ends. In such embodiments, an adapter can directly be ligated to the blunt ends resulting from the nuclease cut of the target site by contacting the cut library members with a double-stranded, blunt-ended adapter lacking 5' phosphorylation. In some embodiments, the nuclease creates an overhang (sticky end). In some such embodiments, an adapter may be ligated to the cut site by contacting the cut library member with an excess of adapter having a compatible sticky end. If a nuclease is used that cuts within a constant spacer sequence between variable half-sites, the sticky end can be designed to match the 5' overhang created from the spacer sequence. In embodiments, where the nuclease cuts within a variable sequence, a population of adapters having a variable overhang sequence and a constant annealed sequence (for use as a sequencing linker or PCR primer) may be used, or the 5' overhangs may be filled in to form blunt ends before adapter ligation.

In some embodiments, the determining of step (c) further comprises amplifying a fragment of the concatemer cut by the nuclease that comprises an uncut target site via PCR using a PCR primer that hybridizes with the adapter and a PCR primer that hybridizes with the constant insert sequence. Typically, the amplification of concatemers via PCR will yield amplicons comprising at least one intact candidate target site identical to the cut target sites because the target sites in each concatemer are identical. For single-direction sequencing, an enrichment of amplicons that comprise one intact target site, no more than two intact target sites, no more than three intact target sites, no more than four intact target sites, or no more than five intact target sites may be desirable. In embodiments where PCR is used for amplification of cut nucleic acid molecules, the PCR parameters can be optimized to favor the amplification of short sequences and disfavor the amplification of longer sequences, e.g., by using a short elongation time in the PCR cycle. Another possibility for enrichment of short amplicons is size fractionation, e.g., via gel electrophoresis or size exclusion chromatography. Size fractionation can be performed before and/or after amplification. Other suitable methods for enrichment of short amplicons will be apparent to those of skill in the art and the disclosure is not limited in this respect.

In some embodiments, the determining of step (c) comprises sequencing the nucleic acid strand that was cut by the nuclease in step (b), or a copy thereof obtained via amplifi-

cation, e.g., by PCR. Sequencing methods are well known to those of skill in the art. The disclosure is not limited in this respect.

In some embodiments, the nuclease being profiled using the inventive system is an RNA-programmable nuclease that 5 forms a complex with an RNA molecule, and wherein the nuclease:RNA complex specifically binds a nucleic acid sequence complementary to the sequence of the RNA molecule. In some embodiments, the RNA molecule is a singleguide RNA (sgRNA). In some embodiments, the sgRNA 10 comprises 5-50 nucleotides, 10-30 nucleotides, 15-25 nucleotides, 18-22 nucleotides, 19-21 nucleotides, e.g., 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, or 30 nucleotides. In some embodiments, the sgRNA comprises 5-50 nucleotides, 10-30 nucleotides, 15-25 nucle- 15 otides, 18-22 nucleotides, 19-21 nucleotides, e.g., 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, or 30 nucleotides that are complementary to a sequence of the nuclease target site. In some embodiments, the sgRNA comprises 20 nucleotides that are complementary to the nuclease 20 target site. In some embodiments, the nuclease is a Cas9 nuclease. In some embodiments, the nuclease target site comprises a [sgRNA-complementary sequence]-[protospacer adjacent motif (PAM)] structure, and the nuclease cuts the target site within the sgRNA-complementary sequence. In 25 some embodiments, the sgRNA-complementary sequence comprises 5-50 nucleotides, 10-30 nucleotides, 15-25 nucleotides, 18-22 nucleotides, 19-21 nucleotides, e.g., 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, or 30 nucleotides.

In some embodiments, the RNA-programmable nuclease is a Cas9 nuclease. The RNA-programmable Cas9 endonuclease cleaves double-stranded DNA (dsDNA) at sites adjacent to a two-base-pair PAM motif and complementary to a guide RNA sequence (sgRNA). Typically, the sgRNA 35 sequence that is complementary to the target site sequence is about 20 nucleotides long, but shorter and longer complementary sgRNA sequences can be used as well. For example, in some embodiments, the sgRNA comprises 5-50 nucleotides, 10-30 nucleotides, 15-25 nucleotides, 18-22 nucleotides, 19-21 nucleotides, e.g., 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, or 30 nucleotides. The Cas9 system has been used to modify genomes in multiple cell types, demonstrating its potential as a facile genome-engineering tool.

In some embodiments, the nuclease comprises an unspecific nucleic acid cleavage domain. In some embodiments, the nuclease comprises a FokI cleavage domain. In some embodiments, the nuclease comprises a nucleic acid cleavage domain that cleaves a target sequence upon cleavage domain 50 dimerization. In some embodiments, the nuclease comprises a binding domain that specifically binds a nucleic acid sequence. In some embodiments, the binding domain comprises a zinc finger. In some embodiments, the binding domain comprises at least 2, at least 3, at least 4, or at least 5 55 zinc fingers. In some embodiments, the nuclease is a Zinc Finger Nuclease. In some embodiments, the binding domain comprises a Transcriptional Activator-Like Element. In some embodiments, the nuclease is a Transcriptional Activator-Like Element Nuclease (TALEN). In some embodiments, the 60 nuclease is a homing endonuclease. In some embodiments, the nuclease is an organic compound. In some embodiments, the nuclease comprises an enediyne functional group. In some embodiments, the nuclease is an antibiotic. In some embodiments, the compound is dynemicin, neocarzinostatin, 65 calicheamicin, esperamicin, bleomycin, or a derivative thereof.

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Incubation of the nuclease with the library nucleic acids will result in cleavage of those concatemers in the library that comprise target sites that can be bound and cleaved by the nuclease. If a given nuclease cleaves a specific target site with high efficiency, a concatemer comprising target sites will be cut, e.g., once or multiple times, resulting in the generation of fragments comprising a cut target site adjacent to one or more repeat units. Depending on the structure of the library members, an exemplary cut nucleic acid molecule released from a library member concatemer by a single nuclease cleavage may, for example, be of the structure (cut target site)-(constant region)-[(target site)-(constant region)] $_{X}$ -R₂. For example, in the context of an RNA-guided nuclease, an exemplary cut nucleic acid molecule released from a library member concatemer by a single nuclease cleavage may, for example, be of the structure (PAM)-(constant region)-[(N_z)-(PAM)-(constant region)]_X-R₂. And in the context of a nuclease cutting an LSR structure within the spacer region, an exemplary cut nucleic acid molecule released from a library member concatemer by a single nuclease cleavage may, for example, be of the structure (cut spacer region)-(right half site)-(constant region)-[(LSR)-(constant region)] $_X$ -R $_2$. Such cut fragments released from library candidate molecules can then be isolated and/or the sequence of the target site cleaved by the nuclease identified by sequencing an intact target site (e.g., an intact (N_z) -(PAM) site of released repeat units. See, e.g., FIG. 1B for an illustration.

Suitable conditions for exposure of the library of nucleic acid molecules will be apparent to those of skill in the art. In some embodiments, suitable conditions do not result in denaturation of the library nucleic acids or the nuclease and allow for the nuclease to exhibit at least 50%, at least 60%, at least 70%, at least 80%, at least 90%, at least 95%, or at least 98% of its nuclease activity.

Additionally, if a given nuclease cleaves a specific target site, some cleavage products will comprise a cut half site and an intact, or uncut target site. As described herein, such products can be isolated by routine methods, and because the insert sequence, in some aspects, is less than 100 base pairs, such isolated cleavage products may be sequenced in a single read-through, allowing identification of the target site sequence without reconstructing the sequence, e.g., from cut half sites.

Any method suitable for isolation and sequencing of the repeat units can be employed to elucidate the LSR sequence cleaved by the nuclease. For example, since the length of the constant region is known, individual released repeat units can be separated based on their size from the larger uncut library nucleic acid molecules as well as from fragments of library nucleic acid molecules that comprise multiple repeat units (indicating non-efficient targeted cleavage by the nuclease). Suitable methods for separating and/or isolating nucleic acid molecules based on their size are well-known to those of skill in the art and include, for example, size fractionation methods, such as gel electrophoresis, density gradient centrifugation, and dialysis over a semi-permeable membrane with a suitable molecular cutoff value. The separated/isolated nucleic acid molecules can then be further characterized, for example, by ligating PCR and/or sequencing adapters to the cut ends and amplifying and/or sequencing the respective nucleic acids. Further, if the length of the constant region is selected to favor self-ligation of individual released repeat units, such individual released repeat units may be enriched by contacting the nuclease treated library molecules with a ligase and subsequent amplification and/or sequencing based on the circularized nature of the self-ligated individual repeat units.

In some embodiments, where a nuclease is used that generates 5'-overhangs as a result of cutting a target nucleic acid, the 5'-overhangs of the cut nucleic acid molecules are filled in. Methods for filling in 5'-overhangs are well known to those of skill in the art and include, for example, methods using DNA 5 polymerase I Klenow fragment lacking exonuclease activity (Klenow (3'->5' exo-)). Filling in 5'-overhangs results in the overhang-templated extension of the recessed strand, which, in turn, results in blunt ends. In the case of single repeat units released from library concatemers, the resulting structure is a 10 blunt-ended S₂'R-(constant region)-LS₁', with S₁' and S₂' comprising blunt ends. PCR and/or sequencing adapters can then be added to the ends by blunt end ligation and the respective repeat units (including S₂'R and LS₁' regions) can be sequenced. From the sequence data, the original LSR region can be deduced. Blunting of the overhangs created during the nuclease cleavage process also allows for distinguishing between target sites that were properly cut by the respective nuclease and target sites that were non-specifically cut, e.g., based on non-nuclease effects such as physical 20 shearing. Correctly cleaved nuclease target sites can be recognized by the existence of complementary S₂'R and LS₁' regions, which comprise a duplication of the overhang nucleotides as a result of the overhang fill in while target sites that were not cleaved by the respective nuclease are unlikely to 25 comprise overhang nucleotide duplications. In some embodiments, the method comprises identifying the nuclease target site cut by the nuclease by determining the sequence of the left-half site, the right-half-site, and/or the spacer sequence of a released individual repeat unit. Any suitable method for 30 amplifying and/or sequencing can be used to identify the LSR sequence of the target site cleaved by the respective nuclease. Methods for amplifying and/or sequencing nucleic acids are well known to those of skill in the art and the disclosure is not limited in this respect. In the case of nucleic acids released 35 from library concatemers that comprise a cut half site and an uncut target site (e.g., comprises at least about 1.5 repeat sequences), filling in the 5'-overhangs also provides for assurance that the nucleic acid was cleaved by the nuclease. Because the nucleic acid also comprises an intact, or uncut 40 target site, the sequence of said site can be determined without having to reconstruct the sequence from a left-half site, righthalf site, and/or spacer sequence.

Some of the methods and strategies provided herein allow for the simultaneous assessment of a plurality of candidate 45 target sites as possible cleavage targets for any given nuclease. Accordingly, the data obtained from such methods can be used to compile a list of target sites cleaved by a given nuclease, which is also referred to herein as a target site profile. If a sequencing method is used that allows for the 50 generation of quantitative sequencing data, it is also possible to record the relative abundance of any nuclease target site detected to be cleaved by the respective nuclease. Target sites that are cleaved more efficiently by the nuclease will be detected more frequently in the sequencing step, while target 55 sites that are not cleaved efficiently will only rarely release an individual repeat unit from a candidate concatemer, and thus, will only generate few, if any, sequencing reads. Such quantitative sequencing data can be integrated into a target site profile to generate a ranked list of highly preferred and less 60 preferred nuclease target sites.

The methods and strategies of nuclease target site profiling provided herein can be applied to any site-specific nuclease, including, for example, ZFNs, TALENs, homing endonucleases, and RNA-programmable nucleases, such as Cas9 nucleases. As described in more detail herein, nuclease specificity typically decreases with increasing nuclease concentra-

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tion, and the methods described herein can be used to determine a concentration at which a given nuclease efficiently cuts its intended target site, but does not efficiently cut any off-target sequences. In some embodiments, a maximum concentration of a therapeutic nuclease is determined at which the therapeutic nuclease cuts its intended nuclease target site but does not cut more than 10, more than 5, more than 4, more than 3, more than 2, more than 1, or any additional sites. In some embodiments, a therapeutic nuclease is administered to a subject in an amount effective to generate a final concentration equal or lower than the maximum concentration determined as described above.

In some embodiments, the library of candidate nucleic acid molecules used in the methods provided herein comprises at least 10^8 , at least 10^9 , at least 10^{10} , at least 10^{11} , or at least 10^{12} different candidate nuclease target sites.

In some embodiments, the nuclease is a therapeutic nuclease which cuts a specific nuclease target site in a gene associated with a disease. In some embodiments, the method further comprises determining a maximum concentration of the therapeutic nuclease at which the therapeutic nuclease cuts the specific nuclease target site and does not cut more than 10, more than 5, more than 4, more than 3, more than 2, more than 1, or no additional sites. In some embodiments, the method further comprises administering the therapeutic nuclease to a subject in an amount effective to generate a final concentration equal or lower than the maximum concentration.

Nuclease Target Site Libraries

Some embodiments of this disclosure provide libraries of nucleic acid molecules for nuclease target site profiling. In some embodiments, the candidate nucleic acid molecules of the library comprise the structure R_1 — $[(N_Z)-(PAM)-(con$ stant region)] $_{X}$ - R_{2} , wherein R_{1} and R_{2} are, independently, nucleic acid sequences that may comprise a fragment of the [(N_z)-(PAM)-(constant region)] repeat unit; each N represents, independently, any nucleotide; Z is an integer between 1 and 50; and X is an integer between 2 and y. In some embodiments, y is at least 10^1 , at least 10^2 , at least 10^3 , at least 10^4 , at least 10^5 , at least 10^6 , at least 10^7 , at least 10^8 , at least 10^9 , at least 10^{10} , at least 10^{11} , at least 10^{12} , at least 10^{13} , at least 10¹⁴, or at least 10¹⁵. In some embodiments, y is less than 10², less than 10³, less than 10⁴, less than 10⁵, less than 10^6 , less than 10^7 , less than 10^8 , less than 10^9 , less than 10^{10} , less than 10^{11} , less than 10^{12} , less than 10^{13} , less than 10^{14} , or less than 10¹⁵. In some embodiments, Z is at least 2, at least 3, at least 4, at least 5, at least 6, at least 7, at least 8, at least 9, at least 10, at least 11, at least 12, at least 13, at least 14, at least 15, at least 16, at least 17, at least 18, at least 19, at least 20, at least 25, at least 30, at least 35, at least 40, at least 45, or at least 50. In some embodiments, Z is 20. Each N represents, independently, any nucleotide. Accordingly, a sequence provided as N_z with =2 would be NN, with each N, independently, representing A, T, G, or C. Accordingly, N_z with _z=2 can represent AA, AT, AG, AC, TA, TT, TG, TC, GA, GT, GG, GC, CA, CT, CG, and CC.

In some embodiments, a library is provided comprising candidate nucleic acid molecules that comprise target sites with a partially randomized left-half site, a partially randomized right-half site, and/or a partially randomized spacer sequence. In some embodiments, the library is provided comprising candidate nucleic acid molecules that comprise target sites with a partially randomized left half site, a fully randomized spacer sequence, and a partially randomized right half site. In some embodiments, a library is provided comprising candidate nucleic acid molecules that comprise target sites with a partially or fully randomized sequence, wherein the

target sites comprise the structure [N_Z-(PAM)], for example as described herein. In some embodiments, partially randomized sites differ from the consensus site by more than 5%, more than 10%, more than 15%, more than 20%, more than 25%, or more than 30% on average, distributed binomially.

In some embodiments such a library comprises a plurality of nucleic acid molecules, each comprising a concatemer of a candidate nuclease target site and a constant insert sequence, also referred to herein as a constant region. For example, in some embodiments, the candidate nucleic acid molecules of the library comprise the structure R₁-[(sgRNA-complementary sequence)-(PAM)-(constant region)]_X-R₂, or the structure R_1 -[(LSR)-(constant region)]_X- R_2 , wherein the structure in square brackets ("[. . .]") is referred to as a repeat unit or repeat sequence; R₁ and R₂ are, independently, nucleic acid sequences that may comprise a fragment of the repeat unit, and X is an integer between 2 and y. In some embodiments, y is at least 10^1 , at least 10^2 , at least 10^3 , at least 10^4 , at least 10^5 , at least 10^6 , at least 10^7 , at least 10^8 , at least 10^9 , at least 10^{10} , 20at least 10^{11} , at least 10^{12} , at least 10^{13} , at least 10^{14} , or at least 10^{15} . In some embodiments, y is less than 10^2 , less than 10^3 , less than 10^4 , less than 10^5 , less than 10^6 , less than 10^7 , less than 10^8 , less than 10^9 , less than 10^{10} , less than 10^{11} , less than 10^{12} , less than 10^{13} , less than 10^{14} , or less than 10^{15} . The 25 constant region, in some embodiments, is of a length that allows for efficient self-ligation of a single repeat unit. In some embodiments, the constant region is of a length that allows for efficient separation of single repeat units from fragments comprising two or more repeat units. In some 30 embodiments, the constant region is of a length allows for efficient sequencing of a complete repeat unit in one sequencing read. Suitable lengths will be apparent to those of skill in the art. For example, in some embodiments, the constant region is between 5 and 100 base pairs long, for example, 35 about 5 base pairs, about 10 base pairs, about 15 base pairs, about 20 base pairs, about 25 base pairs, about 30 base pairs, about 35 base pairs, about 40 base pairs, about 50 base pairs, about 60 base pairs, about 70 base pairs, about 80 base pairs, about 90 base pairs, or about 100 base pairs long. In some 40 embodiments, the constant region is 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 0, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 45 or 80 base pairs long.

An LSR site typically comprises a [left-half site]-[spacer sequence]-[right-half site] structure. The lengths of the halfsize and the spacer sequence will depend on the specific nuclease to be evaluated. In general, the half-sites will be 6-30 50 nucleotides long, and preferably 10-18 nucleotides long. For example, each half site individually may be 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, or 30 nucleotides long. In some embodiments, an LSR site may be longer than 30 nucleotides. In some embodiments, the 55 left half site and the right half site of an LSR are of the same length. In some embodiments, the left half site and the right half site of an LSR are of different lengths. In some embodiments, the left half site and the right half site of an LSR are of different sequences. In some embodiments, a library is pro- 60 vided that comprises candidate nucleic acids which comprise LSRs that can be cleaved by a FokI cleavage domain, a Zinc Finger Nuclease (ZFN), a Transcription Activator-Like Effector Nuclease (TALEN), a homing endonuclease, or an organic compound (e.g., an enediyne antibiotic such as dynemicin, neocarzinostatin, calicheamicin, and esperamicinl; and bleomycin).

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In some embodiments, a library of candidate nucleic acid molecules is provided that comprises at least 10⁵, at least 10⁶, at least 10^7 , at least 10^8 , at least 10^9 , at least 10^{10} , at least 10^{11} at least 10^{12} , at least 10^{13} , at least 10^{14} , or at least 10^{15} different candidate nuclease target sites. In some embodiments, the candidate nucleic acid molecules of the library are concatemers produced from a secularized templates by rolling cycle amplification. In some embodiments, the library comprises nucleic acid molecules, e.g., concatemers, of a molecular weight of at least 5 kDa, at least 6 kDa, at least 7 kDa, at least 8 kDa, at least 9 kDa, at least 10 kDa, at least 12 kDa, or at least 15 kDa. In some embodiments, the molecular weight of the nucleic acid molecules within the library may be larger than 15 kDa. In some embodiments, the library comprises nucleic acid molecules within a specific size range, for example, within a range of 5-7 kDa, 5-10 kDa, 8-12 kDa, 10-15 kDa, or 12-15 kDa, or 5-10 kDa or any possible subrange. While some methods suitable for generating nucleic acid concatemers according to some aspects of this disclosure result in the generation of nucleic acid molecules of greatly different molecular weights, such mixtures of nucleic acid molecules may be size fractionated to obtain a desired size distribution. Suitable methods for enriching nucleic acid molecules of a desired size or excluding nucleic acid molecules of a desired size are well known to those of skill in the art and the disclosure is not limited in this respect.

In some embodiments, partially randomized sites differ from the consensus site by no more than 10%, no more than 15%, no more than 20%, no more than 25%, nor more than 30%, no more than 40%, or no more than 50% on average, distributed binomially. For example, in some embodiments partially randomized sites differ from the consensus site by more than 5%, but by no more than 10%; by more than 10%, but by no more than 20%; by more than 20%, but by no more than 25%; by more than 5%, but by no more than 20%, and so on. Using partially randomized nuclease target sites in the library is useful to increase the concentration of library members comprising target sites that are closely related to the consensus site, for example, that differ from the consensus sites in only one, only two, only three, only four, or only five residues. The rationale behind this is that a given nuclease, for example a given ZFN or RNA-programmable nuclease, is likely to cut its intended target site and any closely related target sites, but unlikely to cut a target sites that is vastly different from or completely unrelated to the intended target site. Accordingly, using a library comprising partially randomized target sites can be more efficient than using libraries comprising fully randomized target sites without compromising the sensitivity in detecting any off-target cleavage events for any given nuclease. Thus, the use of partially randomized libraries significantly reduces the cost and effort required to produce a library having a high likelihood of covering virtually all off-target sites of a given nuclease. In some embodiments however it may be desirable to use a fully randomized library of target sites, for example, in embodiments, where the specificity of a given nuclease is to be evaluated in the context of any possible site in a given genome.

Selection and Design of Site-Specific Nucleases

Some aspects of this disclosure provide methods and strategies for selecting and designing site-specific nucleases that allow the targeted cleavage of a single, unique sites in the context of a complex genome. In some embodiments, a method is provided that comprises providing a plurality of candidate nucleases that are designed or known to cut the same consensus sequence; profiling the target sites actually cleaved by each candidate nuclease, thus detecting any cleaved off-target sites (target sites that differ from the con-

sensus target site); and selecting a candidate nuclease based on the off-target site(s) so identified. In some embodiments, this method is used to select the most specific nuclease from a group of candidate nucleases, for example, the nuclease that cleaves the consensus target site with the highest specificity, 5 the nuclease that cleaves the lowest number of off-target sites, the nuclease that cleaves the lowest number of off-target sites in the context of a target genome, or a nuclease that does not cleave any target site other than the consensus target site. In some embodiments, this method is used to select a nuclease that does not cleave any off-target site in the context of the genome of a subject at concentration that is equal to or higher than a therapeutically effective concentration of the nuclease.

The methods and reagents provided herein can be used, for example, to evaluate a plurality of different nucleases targeting the same intended targets site, for example, a plurality of variations of a given site-specific nuclease, for example a given zinc finger nuclease. Accordingly, such methods may be used as the selection step in evolving or designing a novel site-specific nucleases with improved specificity.

Identifying Unique Nuclease Target Sites within a Genome Some embodiments of this disclosure provide a method for selecting a nuclease target site within a genome. As described in more detail elsewhere herein, it was surprisingly discovered that off target sites cleaved by a given nuclease are 25 typically highly similar to the consensus target site, e.g., differing from the consensus target site in only one, only two, only three, only four, or only five nucleotide residues. Based on this discovery, a nuclease target sites within the genome can be selected to increase the likelihood of a nuclease tar- 30 geting this site not cleaving any off target sites within the genome. For example, in some embodiments, a method is provided that comprises identifying a candidate nuclease target site; and comparing the candidate nuclease target site to other sequences within the genome. Methods for comparing 35 candidate nuclease target sites to other sequences within the genome are well known to those of skill in the art and include for example sequence alignment methods, for example, using a sequence alignment software or algorithm such as BLAST on a general purpose computer. A suitable unique nuclease 40 target site can then be selected based on the results of the sequence comparison. In some embodiments, if the candidate nuclease target site differs from any other sequence within the genome by at least 3, at least 4, at least 5, at least 6, at least 7, at least 8, at least 9, or at least 10 nucleotides, the nuclease 45 target site is selected as a unique site within the genome, whereas if the site does not fulfill this criteria, the site may be discarded. In some embodiments, once a site is selected based on the sequence comparison, as outlined above, a site-specific nuclease targeting the selected site is designed. For example, 50 a zinc finger nuclease may be designed to target any selected nuclease target site by constructing a zinc finger array binding the target site, and conjugating the zinc finger array to a DNA cleavage domain. In embodiments where the DNA cleavage domain needs to dimerize in order to cleave DNA, to zinc 55 finger arrays will be designed, each binding a half site of the nuclease target site, and each conjugated to a cleavage domain. In some embodiments, nuclease designing and/or generating is done by recombinant technology. Suitable recombinant technologies are well known to those of skill in 60 the art, and the disclosure is not limited in this respect.

In some embodiments, a site-specific nuclease designed or generated according to aspects of this disclosure is isolated and/or purified. The methods and strategies for designing site-specific nucleases according to aspects of this disclosure 65 can be applied to design or generate any site-specific nuclease, including, but not limited to Zinc Finger Nucleases,

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Transcription Activator-Like Effector Nucleases (TALENS), a homing endonuclease, an organic compound nuclease, or an enediyne antibiotic (e.g., dynemicin, neocarzinostatin, calicheamicin, esperamicin, bleomycin).

Isolated Nucleases

Some aspects of this disclosure provide isolated site-specific nucleases with enhanced specificity that are designed using the methods and strategies described herein. Some embodiments, of this disclosure provide nucleic acids encoding such nucleases. Some embodiments of this disclosure provide expression constructs comprising such encoding nucleic acids. For example, in some embodiments an isolated nuclease is provided that has been engineered to cleave a desired target site within a genome, and has been evaluated according to a method provided herein to cut less than 1, less than 2, less than 3, less than 4, less than 5, less than 6, less than 7, less than 8, less than 9 or less than 10 off-target sites at a concentration effective for the nuclease to cut its intended target site. In some embodiments an isolated nuclease is pro-20 vided that has been engineered to cleave a desired unique target site that has been selected to differ from any other site within a genome by at least 3, at least 4, at least 5, at least 6, at least 7, at least 8, at least 9, or at least 10 nucleotide residues. In some embodiments, the isolated nuclease is an RNA-programmable nuclease, such as a Cas9 nuclease; a Zinc Finger Nuclease (ZFN); or a Transcription Activator-Like Effector Nuclease (TALEN), a homing endonuclease, an organic compound nuclease, or an enediyne antibiotic (e.g., dynemicin, neocarzinostatin, calicheamicin, esperamicin, bleomycin). In some embodiments, the isolated nuclease cleaves a target site within an allele that is associated with a disease or disorder. In some embodiments, the isolated nuclease cleaves a target site the cleavage of which results in treatment or prevention of a disease or disorder. In some embodiments, the disease is HIV/AIDS, or a proliferative disease. In some embodiments, the allele is a CCR5 (for treating HIV/AIDS) or a VEGFA allele (for treating a proliferative disease).

In some embodiments, the isolated nuclease is provided as part of a pharmaceutical composition. For example, some embodiments provide pharmaceutical compositions comprising a nuclease as provided herein, or a nucleic acid encoding such a nuclease, and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient. Pharmaceutical compositions may optionally comprise one or more additional therapeutically active substances.

In some embodiments, compositions provided herein are administered to a subject, for example, to a human subject, in order to effect a targeted genomic modification within the subject. In some embodiments, cells are obtained from the subject and contacted with a nuclease or a nuclease-encoding nucleic acid ex vivo, and re-administered to the subject after the desired genomic modification has been effected or detected in the cells. Although the descriptions of pharmaceutical compositions provided herein are principally directed to pharmaceutical compositions which are suitable for administration to humans, it will be understood by the skilled artisan that such compositions are generally suitable for administration to animals of all sorts. Modification of pharmaceutical compositions suitable for administration to humans in order to render the compositions suitable for administration to various animals is well understood, and the ordinarily skilled veterinary pharmacologist can design and/ or perform such modification with merely ordinary, if any, experimentation. Subjects to which administration of the pharmaceutical compositions is contemplated include, but are not limited to, humans and/or other primates; mammals,

including commercially relevant mammals such as cattle, pigs, horses, sheep, cats, dogs, mice, and/or rats; and/or birds, including commercially relevant birds such as chickens, ducks, geese, and/or turkeys.

Formulations of the pharmaceutical compositions 5 described herein may be prepared by any method known or hereafter developed in the art of pharmacology. In general, such preparatory methods include the step of bringing the active ingredient into association with an excipient and/or one or more other accessory ingredients, and then, if necessary and/or desirable, shaping and/or packaging the product into a desired single- or multi-dose unit.

Pharmaceutical formulations may additionally comprise a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient, which, as used herein, includes any and all solvents, dispersion media, diluents, or other liquid vehicles, dispersion or suspension aids, surface active agents, isotonic agents, thickening or emulsifying agents, preservatives, solid binders, lubricants and the like, as suited to the particular dosage form desired. Remington's The Science and Practice of Pharmacy, 21st Edition, A. 20 R. Gennaro (Lippincott, Williams & Wilkins, Baltimore, Md., 2006; incorporated in its entirety herein by reference) discloses various excipients used in formulating pharmaceutical compositions and known techniques for the preparation thereof. See also PCT application PCT/US2010/055131, 25 incorporated in its entirety herein by reference, for additional suitable methods, reagents, excipients and solvents for producing pharmaceutical compositions comprising a nuclease. Except insofar as any conventional excipient medium is incompatible with a substance or its derivatives, such as by 30 producing any undesirable biological effect or otherwise interacting in a deleterious manner with any other component (s) of the pharmaceutical composition, its use is contemplated to be within the scope of this disclosure.

The function and advantage of these and other embodiments of the present invention will be more fully understood from the Examples below. The following Examples are intended to illustrate the benefits of the present invention and to describe particular embodiments, but are not intended to exemplify the full scope of the invention. Accordingly, it will 40 be understood that the Examples are not meant to limit the scope of the invention.

EXAMPLES

Materials and Methods

Oligonucleotides. All oligonucleotides used in this study were purchased from Integrated DNA Technologies. Oligonucleotide sequences are listed in Table 9.

Expression and Purification of S. pyogenes Cas9. E. coli 50 Rosetta (DE3) cells were transformed with plasmid pMJ806¹¹, encoding the S. pyogenes cas9 gene fused to an N-terminal 6× His-tag/maltose binding protein. The resulting expression strain was inoculated in Luria-Bertani (LB) broth containing 100 $\mu g/mL$ of ampicillin and 30 $\mu g/mL$ of 55 chloramphenicol at 37° C. overnight. The cells were diluted 1:100 into the same growth medium and grown at 37° C. to OD_{600} ~0.6. The culture was incubated at 18° C. for 30 min, and isopropyl β-D-1-thiogalactopyranoside (IPTG) was added at 0.2 mM to induce Cas9 expression. After -17 h, the 60 cells were collected by centrifugation at 8,000 g and resuspended in lysis buffer (20 mM tris(hydroxymethyl)-aminomethane (Tris)-HCl, pH 8.0, 1 M KCl, 20% glycerol, 1 mM tris(2-carboxyethyl)phosphine (TCEP)). The cells were lysed by sonication (10 sec pulse-on and 30 sec pulse-off for 10 min 65 total at 6 W output) and the soluble lysate was obtained by centrifugation at 20,000 g for 30 min. The cell lysate was

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incubated with nickel-nitriloacetic acid (nickel-NTA) resin (Qiagen) at 4° C. for 20 min to capture His-tagged Cas9. The resin was transferred to a 20-mL column and washed with 20 column volumes of lysis buffer. Cas9 was eluted in 20 mM Tris-HCl (pH 8), 0.1 M KCl, 20% glycerol, 1 mM TCEP, and 250 mM imidazole, and concentrated by Amicon ultra centrifugal filter (Millipore, 30-kDa molecular weight cut-off) to -50 mg/mL. The 6× His tag and maltose-binding protein were removed by TEV protease treatment at 4° C. for 20 h and captured by a second Ni-affinity purification step. The eluent, containing Cas9, was injected into a HiTrap SP FF column (GE Healthcare) in purification buffer containing 20 mM Tris-HCl (pH 8), 0.1 M KCl, 20% glycerol, and 1 mM TCEP. Cas9 was eluted with purification buffer containing a linear KCl gradient from 0.1 M to 1 M over five column volumes. The eluted Cas9 was further purified by a HiLoad Superdex 200 column in purification buffer, snap-frozen in liquid nitrogen, and stored in aliquots at -80° C.

In Vitro RNA Transcription. 100 pmol CLTA(#) v2.1 fwd and v2.1 template rev were incubated at 95° C. and cooled at 0.1° C./s to 37° C. in NEBuffer2 (50 mM sodium chloride, 10 mM Tris-HCl, 10 mM magnesium chloride, 1 mM dithiothreitol, pH 7.9) supplemented with 10 µM dNTP mix (Bio-Rad). 10 U of Klenow Fragment (3'→5' exo⁻) (NEB) were added to the reaction mixture and a double-stranded CLTA(#) v2.1 template was obtained by overlap extension for 1 h at 37° C. 200 nM CLTA(#) v2.1 template alone or 100 nM CLTA(#) template with 100 nM T7 promoter oligo was incubated overnight at 37° C. with 0.16 U/μL of T7 RNA Polymerase (NEB) in NEB RNAPol Buffer (40 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.9, 6 mM magnesium chloride, 10 mM dithiothreitol, 2 mM spermidine) supplemented with 1 mM rNTP mix (1 mM rATP, 1 mM rCTP, 1 mM rGTP, 1 mM rUTP). In vitro transcribed RNA was precipitated with ethanol and purified by gel electrophoresis on a Criterion 10% polyacrylamide TBE-Urea gel (Bio-Rad). Gel-purified sgRNA was precipitated with ethanol and redissolved in water.

In Vitro Library Construction. 10 pmol of CLTA(#) lib oligonucleotides were separately circularized by incubation with 100 units of CircLigase II ssDNA Ligase (Epicentre) in 1× CircLigase II Reaction Buffer (33 mM Tris-acetate, 66 mM potassium acetate, 0.5 mM dithiothreitol, pH 7.5) supplemented with 2.5 mM manganese chloride in a total reaction volume of 20 μL for 16 hours at 60° C. The reaction mixture was incubated for 10 minutes at 85° C. to inactivate the enzyme. 5 μL (5 pmol) of the crude circular single-stranded DNA were converted into the concatemeric preselection libraries with the illustra TempliPhi Amplification Kit (GE Healthcare) according to the manufacturer's protocol. Concatemeric pre-selection libraries were quantified with the Quant-it PicoGreen dsDNA Assay Kit (Invitrogen).

In Vitro Cleavage of on-Target and Off-Target Substrates. Plasmid templates for PCR were constructed by ligation of annealed oligonucleotides CLTA(#) site fwd/rev into HindIII/ XbaI double-digested pUC19 (NEB). On-target substrate DNAs were generated by PCR with the plasmid templates and test fwd and test rev primers, then purified with the QIAquick PCR Purification Kit (Qiagen). Off-target substrate DNAs were generated by primer extension. 100 pmol off-target (#) fwd and off-target (#) rev primers were incubated at 95° C. and cooled at 0.1° C./s to 37° C. in NEBuffer2 (50 mM sodium chloride, 10 mM Tris-HCl, 10 mM magnesium chloride, 1 mM dithiothreitol, pH 7.9) supplemented with 10 µM dNTP mix (Bio-Rad). 10 U of Klenow Fragment $(3'\rightarrow 5' \text{ exo-})$ (NEB) were added to the reaction mixture and double-stranded off-target templates were obtained by overlap extension for 1 h at 37° C. followed by enzyme inactiva-

(Qiagen) before electrophoresis in a Criterion 5% polyacry-

lamide TBE gel (Bio-Rad).

tion for 20 min at 75° C., then purified with the QIAquick PCR Purification Kit (Qiagen). 200 nM substrate DNAs were incubated with 100 nM Cas9 and 100 nM (v1.0 or v2.1) sgRNA or 1000 nM Cas9 and 1000 nM (v1.0 or v2.1) sgRNA in Cas9 cleavage buffer (200 mM HEPES, pH 7.5, 1.5 M 5 potassium chloride, 100 mM magnesium chloride, 1 mM EDTA, 5 mM dithiothreitol) for 10 min at 37° C. On-target cleavage reactions were purified with the QIAquick PCR Purification Kit (Qiagen), and off-target cleavage reactions were purified with the QIAquick Removal Kit 10 min at 37° C.

In Vitro Selection. 200 nM concatemeric pre-selection libraries were incubated with 100 nM Cas9 and 100 nM sgRNA or 1000 nM Cas9 and 1000 nM sgRNA in Cas9 15 cleavage buffer (200 mM HEPES, pH 7.5, 1.5 M potassium chloride, 100 mM magnesium chloride, 1 mM EDTA, 5 mM dithiothreitol) for 10 min at 37° C. Pre-selection libraries were also separately incubated with 2 U of BspMI restriction endonuclease (NEB) in NEBuffer 3 (100 mM NaCl. 50 mM 20 Tris-HCl, 10 mM MgCl2, 1 mM dithiothreitol, pH 7.9) for 1 h at 37° C. Blunt-ended post-selection library members or sticky-ended pre-selection library members were purified with the QIAQuick PCR Purification Kit (Qiagen) and ligated to 10 pmol adapter1/2(AACA) (Cas9:v2.1 sgRNA, 100 nM), 25 adapter1/2(TTCA) (Cas9:v2.1 sgRNA, 1000 adapter1/2 (Cas9:v2.1 sgRNA, 1000 nM), or lib adapter1/ CLTA(#) lib adapter 2 (pre-selection) with 1,000 U of T4 DNA Ligase (NEB) in NEB T4 DNA Ligase Reaction Buffer (50 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.5, 10 mM magnesium chloride, 1 mM 30 ATP, 10 mM dithiothreitol) overnight (>10 h) at room temperature. Adapter-ligated DNA was purified with the QIAquick PCR Purification Kit and PCR-amplified for 10-13 cycles with Phusion Hot Start Flex DNA Polymerase (NEB) in Buffer HF (NEB) and primers CLTA(#) sel PCR/PE2 short 35 (post-selection) or CLTA(#) lib seq PCR/lib fwd PCR (preselection). Amplified DNAs were gel purified, quantified with the KAPA Library Quantification Kit-Illumina (KAPA Biosystems), and subjected to single-read sequencing on an Illumina MiSeq or Rapid Run single-read sequencing on an 40 Illumina HiSeq 2500 (Harvard University FAS Center for Systems Biology Core facility, Cambridge, Mass.).

Selection Analysis. Pre-selection and post-selection sequencing data were analyzed as previously described²¹, with modification (Algorithms) using scripts written in C++. 45 Raw sequence data is not shown; see Table 2 for a curated summary. Specificity scores were calculated with the formulae: positive specificity score=(frequency of base pair at position[pre-selection])/(1-frequency of base pair at position[pre-selection]) and negative specificity score=(frequency of base pair at position[pre-selection])/(frequency of base pair at position[pre-selection]). Normalization for sequence logos was performed as previously described²².

Cellular Cleavage Assays. HEK293T cells were split at a density of 0.8×10⁵ per well (6-well plate) before transcription and maintained in Dulbecco's modified eagle medium (DMEM) supplemented with 10% fetal bovine serum (FBS) in a 37° C. humidified incubator with 5% CO₂. After 1 day, 60 cells were transiently transfected using Lipofectamine 2000 (Invitrogen) following the manufacturer's protocols. HEK293T cells were transfected at 70% confluency in each well of 6-well plate with 1.0 μg of the Cas9 expression plasmid (Cas9-HA-2×NLS-GFP-NLS) and 2.5 μg of the singlestrand RNA expression plasmid pSiliencer-CLTA (version 1.0 or 2.1). The transfection efficiencies were estimated to be

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~70%, based on the fraction of GFP-positive cells observed by fluorescence microscopy. 48 h after transfection, cells were washed with phosphate buffered saline (PBS), pelleted and frozen at -80° C. Genomic DNA was isolated from 200 μ L cell lysate using the DNeasy Blood and Tissue Kit (Qiagen) according to the manufacturer's protocol.

Off-Target Site Sequence Determination. 100 ng genomic DNA isolated from cells treated with Cas9 expression plasmid and single-strand RNA expression plasmid (treated cells) or Cas9 expression plasmid alone (control cells) were amplified by PCR with 10 s 72° C. extension for 35 cycles with primers CLTA(#)-(#)-(#) fwd and CLTA(#)-(#)-(#) rev and Phusion Hot Start Flex DNA Polymerase (NEB) in Buffer GC (NEB), supplemented with 3% DMSO. Relative amounts of crude PCR products were quantified by gel, and Cas9-treated (control) and Cas9:sgRNA-treated PCRs were separately pooled in equimolar concentrations before purification with the QIAquick PCR Purification Kit (Qiagen). Purified DNA was amplified by PCR with primers PE1-barcode# and PE2barcode# for 7 cycles with Phusion Hot Start Flex DNA Polymerase (NEB) in Buffer HF (NEB). Amplified control and treated DNA pools were purified with the QIAquick PCR Purification Kit (Qiagen), followed by purification with Agencourt AMPure XP (Beckman Coulter). Purified control and treated DNAs were quantified with the KAPA Library Quantification Kit-Illumina (KAPA Biosystems), pooled in a 1:1 ratio, and subjected to paired-end sequencing on an Illumina MiSeq.

Statistical Analysis. Statistical analysis was performed as previously described²¹. P-values in Table 1 and Table 6 were calculated for a one-sided Fisher exact test.

Algorithms

All scripts were written in C++. Algorithms used in this study are as previous reported (reference) with modification.

Sequence binning. 1) designate sequence pairs starting with the barcode "AACA" or "TTCA" as post-selection library members. 2) for post-selection library members (with illustrated example):

Example Read:

(SEQ ID NO: 42)
AACACATGGGTCGACACACACACACACACTCGGCAGGTACTTGCAGATGTAGT

 $\mathtt{CTTTCCA}\underline{\mathtt{CATGGGTCGACACAAACACAA}}\mathbf{\mathtt{CTCGGCAGGT}}\mathtt{ATCTCGTATGCC}$

i) search both paired reads for the positions, pos1 and pos2, of the constant sequence "CTCGGCAGGT" (SEQ ID NO:43). ii) keep only sequences that have identical sequences between the barcode and pos1 and preceding pos2. iii) keep the region between the two instances of the constant sequence (the region between the barcode and pos1 contains a cut half-site; the region that is between the two instances of the constant sequence contains a full site)

Example:

(SEQ ID NO: 44) ACTTGCAGATGTAGTCTTTCCACATGGGTCGACACAAACACAA

ii) search the sequence for a selection barcode ("

TGTGTTTGTGTT" (SEQ ID NO:45) for CLTA1, "

AGAAGAAGAAGA" (SEQ ID NO:46) for CLTA2, "

TTCTCTTTCTCT" (SEQ ID NO:47) for CLTA3, "

ACACAAACACAA" (SEQ ID NO:48) for CLTA4)

Example:

(SEQ ID NO: 49)
ACTTGCAGATGTAGTCTTTCCACATGGGTCGACACAAACACAA
CLTA4

iii) the sequence before the barcode is the full post-selection library member (first four and last four nucleotides are fully randomized flanking sequence)

Example:

(SEQ ID NO: 50) ACTT GCAGATGTAGTCTTTCCACATGG GTCG

iv) parse the quality scores for the positions corresponding to the 23 nucleotide post-selection library memberExample Read:

 v) keep sequences only if the corresponding quality score string (underlined) FASTQ quality characters for the sequence are '?' or higher in ASCII code (Phred quality score >=30)

NHEJ Sequence Calling

Example Read:

(SEQ ID NO: 52)
CAATCTCCCGCATGCGCTCAGTCCTCATCTCCCTCAAGCAGGCCCCGCTG

GTGCACTGAAGAGCCACCCTGTGAAACACTACATCTGCAATATCTTAATC

CTACTCAGTGAAGCTCTTCACAGTCATTGGATTAATTATGTTGAGTTCTT

TTGGACCAAACC

Example Quality Scores:

1) identify the 20 base pairs flanking both sides of 20 base pair target site+three base pair PAM for each target site Example Flanking Sequences:

(SEQ ID NO: 53)

GCTGGTGCACTGAAGAGCCA

(SEQ ID NO: 54)

AATATCTTAATCCTACTCAG

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2) search all sequence reads for the flanking sequences to identify the potential off-target site (the sequence between the flanking sequences)

Example Potential Off-target Site:

(SEQ ID NO: 55)

3) if the potential off-target site contains indels (length is less than 23), keep sequence as potential off-target site if all corresponding FASTQ quality characters for the sequence are '?' or higher in ASCII code (Phred quality score >=30) Example Potential Off-target Site Length=22

example corresponding FASTQ quality characters: ННGНННННННННННННННН

4) bin and manually inspect all sequences that pass steps 2 and 3 and keep sequences as potential modified sequences if they have at least one deletion involving position 16, 17, or 18 (of 20 counting from the non-PAM end) of if they have an insertion between position 17 and 18, consistent with the most frequent modifications observed for the intended target site (FIG. 3)

Example Potential Off-target Site (Reverse Complement, with Positions Labeled) with Reference Sequence:

11111111112222 non-PAM end 12345678901234567890123 PAM end GCAGATGTAGTGTTTC-ACAGGG (SEQ ID NO: 56)

GCAGATGTAGTGTTTCCACAGGG (SEQ ID NO: 57)

- 4) repeat steps 1-3 for read2 and keep only if the sequence is the same
- 5) compare overall counts in Cas9+sgRNA treated sample to Cas9 alone sample to identify modified sites Filter Based on Cleavage Site (for Post-selection
 - Filter Based on Cleavage Site (for Post-selection Sequences)
 - tabulate the cleavage site locations across the recognition site by identifying the first position in the full sequenced recognition site (between the two constant sequences) that is identical to the first position in the sequencing read after the barcode (before the first constant sequence).
 - after tabulation, repeat step 1, keeping only sequences with cleavage site locations that are present in at least 5% of the sequencing reads.

Results

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Broad Off-target DNA Cleavage Profiling Reveals RNA-programmed Cas9 Nuclease Specificity.

Sequence-specific endonucleases including zinc-finger nucleases (ZFNs) and transcription activator-like effector nucleases (TALENs) have become important tools to modify genes in induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSCs), 1-3 in multicellular organisms, 4-8 and in ex vivo gene therapy clinical trials. 9, 10 Although ZFNs and TALENs have proved effective for such genetic manipulation, a new ZFN or TALEN protein must be generated for each DNA target site. In contrast, the RNA-guided Cas9 endonuclease uses RNA:DNA hybridization to determine target DNA cleavage sites, enabling a single monomeric protein to cleave, in principle, any sequence specified by the guide RNA. 11

Previous studies¹²⁻¹⁷ demonstrated that Cas9 mediates genome editing at sites complementary to a 20-nucleotide sequence in a bound guide RNA. In addition, target sites must include a protospacer adjacent motif (PAM) at the 3' end adjacent to the 20-nucleotide target site; for *Streptococcus*

pyogenes Cas9, the PAM sequence is NGG. Cas9-mediated DNA cleavage specificity both in vitro and in cells has been inferred previously based on assays against small collections of potential single-mutation off-target sites. These studies suggested that perfect complementarity between guide RNA and target DNA is required in the 7-12 base pairs adjacent to the PAM end of the target site (3' end of the guide RNA) and mismatches are tolerated at the non-PAM end (5' end of the guide RNA). ^{11, 12, 17-19}

Although such a limited number of nucleotides specifying 10 Cas9:guide RNA target recognition would predict multiple sites of DNA cleavage in genomes of moderate to large size (>~10⁷ bp), Cas9:guide RNA complexes have been successfully used to modify both cells^{12, 13, 15} and organisms.¹⁴ A study using Cas9: guide RNA complexes to modify zebrafish 1 embryos observed toxicity at a rate similar to that of ZFNs and TALENs.14 A recent, broad study of the specificity of DNA binding (transcriptional repression) in E. coli of a catalytically inactive Cas9 mutant using high-throughput sequencing found no detectable off-target transcriptional 20 repression in the relatively small E. coli transcriptome.²⁰ While these studies have substantially advanced our basic understanding of Cas9, a systematic and comprehensive profile of Cas9: guide RNA-mediated DNA cleavage specificity generated from measurements of Cas9 cleavage on a large 25 number of related mutant target sites has not been described. Such a specificity profile is needed to understand and improve the potential of Cas9: guide RNA complexes as research tools and future therapeutic agents.

We modified our previously published in vitro selection,²¹ 30 adapted to process the blunt-ended cleavage products produced by Cas9 compared to the overhang-containing products of ZFN cleavage, to determine the off-target DNA cleavage profiles of Cas9:single guide RNA (sgRNA)¹¹ complexes. Each selection experiment used DNA substrate 35 libraries containing ~10¹² sequences, a size sufficiently large to include ten-fold coverage of all sequences with eight or fewer mutations relative to each 22-base pair target sequence (including the two-base pair PAM) (FIG. 1). We used partially randomized nucleotide mixtures at all 22 target-site base 40 pairs to create a binomially distributed library of mutant target sites with an expected mean of 4.62 mutations per target site. In addition, target site library members were flanked by four fully randomized base pairs on each side to test for specificity patterns beyond those imposed by the 45 canonical 20-base pair target site and PAM.

Pre-selection libraries of 10¹² individual potential off-target sites were generated for each of four different target sequences in the human clathrin light chain A (CLTA) gene (FIG. 3). Synthetic 5'-phosphorylated 53-base oligonucle- 50 otides were self-ligated into circular single-stranded DNA in vitro, then converted into concatemeric 53-base pair repeats through rolling-circle amplification. The resulting pre-selection libraries were incubated with their corresponding Cas9: sgRNA complexes. Cleaved library members containing free 55 5' phosphates were separated from intact library members through the 5' phosphate-dependent ligation of non-phosphorylated double-stranded sequencing adapters. The ligationtagged post-selection libraries were amplified by PCR. The PCR step generated a mixture of post-selection DNA frag- 60 ments containing 0.5, 1.5, or 2.5, etc. repeats of library members cleaved by Cas9, resulting from amplification of an adapter-ligated cut half-site with or without one or more adjacent corresponding full sites (FIG. 1). Post-selection library members with 1.5 target-sequence repeats were iso- 65 lated by gel purification and analyzed by high-throughput sequencing. In a final computational selection step to mini44

mize the impact of errors during DNA amplification or sequencing, only sequences with two identical copies of the repeated cut half-site were analyzed.

Pre-selection libraries were incubated under enzyme-limiting conditions (200 nM target site library, 100 nM Cas9: sgRNA v2.1) or enzyme-saturating conditions (200 nM target site library, 1000 nM Cas9:sgRNA v2.1) for each of the four guide RNAs targets tested (CLTA1, CLTA2, CLTA3, and CLTA4) (FIGS. 3C and 3D). A second guide RNA construct, sgRNA v1.0, which is less active than sgRNA v2.1, was assayed under enzyme-saturating conditions alone for each of the four guide RNA targets tested (200 nM target site library, 1000 nM Cas9:sgRNA v1.0). The two guide RNA constructs differ in their length (FIG. 3) and in their DNA cleavage activity level under the selection conditions, consistent with previous reports¹⁵ (FIG. 4). Both pre-selection and post-selection libraries were characterized by high-throughput DNA sequencing and computational analysis. As expected, library members with fewer mutations were significantly enriched in post-selection libraries relative to pre-selection libraries (FIG. 5).

Pre- and Post-Selection Library Composition. The preselection libraries for CLTA1, CLTA2, CLTA3, and CLTA4 had observed mean mutation rates of 4.82 (n=1,129,593), 5.06 (n=847,618), 4.66 (n=692,997), and 5.00 (n=951,503) mutations per 22-base pair target site, including the two-base pair PAM, respectively. The post-selection libraries treated under enzyme-limiting conditions with Cas9 plus CLTA1, CLTA2, CLTA3, or CLTA4 v.2.1 sgRNAs contained means of 1.14 (n=1,206,268), 1.21 (n=668,312), 0.91 (n=1,138,568), and 1.82 (n=560,758) mutations per 22-base pair target site. Under enzyme-excess conditions, the mean number of mutations among sequences surviving selection increased to 1.61 (n=640,391), 1.86 (n=399,560), 1.46 (n=936,414), and 2.24 (n=506,179) mutations per 22-base pair target site, respectively, for CLTA1, CLTA2, CLTA3, or CLTA4 v2.1 sgRNAs. These results reveal that the selection significantly enriched library members with fewer mutations for all Cas9:sgRNA complexes tested, and that enzyme-excess conditions resulted in the putative cleavage of more highly mutated library members compared with enzyme-limiting conditions (FIG. 5).

We calculated specificity scores to quantify the enrichment level of each base pair at each position in the post-selection library relative to the pre-selection library, normalized to the maximum possible enrichment of that base pair. Positive specificity scores indicate base pairs that were enriched in the post-selection library and negative specificity scores indicate base pairs that were de-enriched in the post-selection library. For example, a score of +0.5 indicates that a base pair is enriched to 50% of the maximum enrichment value, while a score of -0.5 indicates that a base pair is de-enriched to 50% of the maximum de-enrichment value.

In addition to the two base pairs specified by the PAM, all 20 base pairs targeted by the guide RNA were enriched in the sequences from the CLTA1 and CLTA2 selections (FIG. 2, FIGS. 6 and 9, and Table 2). For the CLTA3 and CLTA4 selections (FIGS. 7 and 8, and Table 2), guide RNA-specified base pairs were enriched at all positions except for the two most distal base pairs from the PAM (5' end of the guide RNA), respectively. At these non-specified positions farthest from the PAM, at least two of the three alternate base pairs were nearly as enriched as the specified base pair. Our finding that the entire 20 base-pair target site and two base pair PAM can contribute to Cas9:sgRNA DNA cleavage specificity con-

trasts with the results from previous single-substrate assays suggesting that only 7-12 base pairs and two base pair PAM are specified.11, 12, 15

All single-mutant pre-selection (n≥14,569) and post-selection library members (n≥103,660) were computationally ana- 5 lyzed to provide a selection enrichment value for every possible single-mutant sequence. The results of this analysis (FIG. 2 and FIGS. 6 and 8) show that when only singlemutant sequences are considered, the six to eight base pairs closest to the PAM are generally highly specified and the 10 non-PAM end is poorly specified under enzyme-limiting conditions, consistent with previous findings. 11, 12, 17-19 Under enzyme-saturating conditions, however, single mutations even in the six to eight base pairs most proximal to the PAM are tolerated, suggesting that the high specificity at the PAM end of the DNA target site can be compromised when enzyme concentrations are high relative to substrate (FIG. 2). The observation of high specificity against single mutations close to the PAM only applies to sequences with a single mutation combination of mutations is tolerated in the region of the target site farthest from the PAM (FIG. 10-15). Analyses of pre- and post-selection library composition are described elsewhere herein, position-dependent specificity patterns are illustrated in FIGS. 18-20, PAM nucleotide specificity is 25 illustrated in FIGS. 21-24, and more detailed effects of Cas9: sgRNA concentration on specificity are described in FIG. 2G and FIG. 25).

Specificity at the Non-PAM End of the Target Site. To assess the ability of Cas9:v2.1 sgRNA under enzyme-excess 30 conditions to tolerate multiple mutations distal to the PAM, we calculated maximum specificity scores at each position for sequences that contained mutations only in the region of one to 12 base pairs at the end of the target site most distal from the PAM (FIG. 10-17).

The results of this analysis show no selection (maximum specificity score ~0) against sequences with up to three mutations, depending on the target site, at the end of the molecule farthest from the PAM when the rest of the sequence contains farthest from the PAM are allowed to vary (indicated by dark bars in FIG. 11C) in the CLTA2 target site, the maximum specificity scores at each of the three variable positions are close to zero, indicating that there was no selection for any of the four possible base pairs at each of the three variable 45 positions. However, when the eight base pairs farthest from the PAM are allowed to vary (FIG. 11H), the maximum specificity scores at positions 4-8 are all greater than +0.4, indicating that the Cas9:sgRNA has a sequence preference at these positions even when the rest of the substrate contains 50 preferred, on-target base pairs.

We also calculated the distribution of mutations (FIG. 15-17), in both pre-selection and v2.1 sgRNA-treated postselection libraries under enzyme-excess conditions, when only the first 1-12 base pairs of the target site are allowed to 55 vary. There is significant overlap between the pre-selection and post-selection libraries for only a subset of the data (FIG. 15-17, a-c), demonstrating minimal to no selection in the post-selection library for sequences with mutations only in the first three base pairs of the target site. These results collectively show that Cas9:sgRNA can tolerate a small number of mutations (~one to three) at the end of the sequence farthest from the PAM when provided with maximal sgRNA:DNA interactions in the rest of the target site.

Specificity at the PAM End of the Target Site. We plotted 65 positional specificity as the sum of the magnitudes of the specificity scores for all four base pairs at each position of

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each target site, normalized to the same sum for the most highly specified position (FIG. 18-20). Under both enzymelimiting and enzyme-excess conditions, the PAM end of the target site is highly specified. Under enzyme-limiting conditions, the PAM end of the molecule is almost absolutely specified (specificity score ≥+0.9 for guide RNA-specified base pairs) by CLTA1, CTLA2, and CLTA3 guide RNAs (FIG. 2 and FIG. 6-9), and highly specified by CLTA4 guide RNA (specificity score of +0.7 to +0.9). Within this region of high specificity, specific single mutations, consistent with wobble pairing between the guide RNA and target DNA, that are tolerated. For example, under enzyme-limiting conditions for single-mutant sequences, a dA:dT off-target base pair and a guide RNA-specified dG:dC base pair are equally tolerated at position 17 out of 20 (relative to the non-PAM end of the target site) of the CLTA3 target site. At this position, an rG:dT wobble RNA:DNA base pair may be formed, with minimal apparent loss of cleavage activity.

Importantly, the selection results also reveal that the choice and the selection results do not support a model in which any 20 of guide RNA hairpin affects specificity. The shorter, lessactive sgRNA v1.0 constructs are more specific than the longer, more-active sgRNA v2.1 constructs when assayed under identical, enzyme-saturating conditions that reflect an excess of enzyme relative to substrate in a cellular context (FIG. 2 and FIGS. 5-8). The higher specificity of sgRNA v1.0 over sgRNA v2.1 is greater for CLTA1 and CLTA2 (~40-90% difference) than for CLTA3 and CLTA4 (<40% difference). Interestingly, this specificity difference is localized to different regions of the target site for each target sequence (FIGS. 2H and 26). Collectively, these results indicate that different guide RNA architectures result in different DNA cleavage specificities, and that guide RNA-dependent changes in specificity do not affect all positions in the target site equally. Given the inverse relationship between Cas9:sgRNA concen-35 tration and specificity described above, we speculate that the differences in specificity between guide RNA architectures arises from differences in their overall level of DNA-cleavage activities.

Effects of Cas9:sgRNA Concentration on DNA Cleavage no mutations. For example, when only the three base pairs 40 Specificity. To assess the effect of enzyme concentration on patterns of specificity for the four target sites tested, we calculated the concentration-dependent difference in positional specificity and compared it to the maximal possible change in positional specificity (FIG. 25). In general, specificity was higher under enzyme-limiting conditions than enzyme-excess conditions. A change from enzyme-excess to enzymelimiting conditions generally increased the specificity at the PAM end of the target by ≥80% of the maximum possible change in specificity. Although a decrease in enzyme concentration generally induces small (~30%) increases in specificity at the end of the target sites farthest from the PAM, concentration decreases induce much larger increases in specificity at the end of the target site nearest the PAM. For CLTA4, a decrease in enzyme concentration is accompanied by a small (~30%) decrease in specificity at some base pairs near the end of the target site farthest from the PAM.

> Specificity of PAM Nucleotides. To assess the contribution of the PAM to specificity, we calculated the abundance of all 16 possible PAM dinucleotides in the pre-selection and postselection libraries, considering all observed post-selection target site sequences (FIG. 21) or considering only postselection target site sequences that contained no mutations in the 20 base pairs specified by the guide RNA (FIG. 22). Considering all observed post-selection target site sequences, under enzyme-limiting conditions, GG dinucleotides represented 99.8%, 99.9%, 99.8%, and 98.5% of the post-selection PAM dinucleotides for selections with CLTA1, CLTA2,

CLTA3, and CLTA4 v2.1 sgRNAs, respectively. In contrast, under enzyme-excess conditions, GG dinucleotides represented 97.7%, 98.3%, 95.7%, and 87.0% of the post-selection PAM dinucleotides for selections with CLTA1, CLTA2, CLTA3, and CLTA4 v2.1 sgRNAs, respectively. These data 5 demonstrate that an increase in enzyme concentration leads to increased cleavage of substrates containing non-canonical PAM dinucleotides.

To account for the pre-selection library distribution of PAM dinucleotides, we calculated specificity scores for the 10 PAM dinucleotides (FIG. 23). When only on-target postselection sequences are considered under enzyme-excess conditions (FIG. 24), non-canonical PAM dinucleotides with a single G rather than two Gs are relatively tolerated. Under enzyme-excess conditions, Cas9:CLTA4 sgRNA 2.1 exhib- 15 ited the highest tolerance of non-canonical PAM dinucleotides of all the Cas9:sgRNA combinations tested. AG and GA dinucleotides were the most tolerated, followed by GT, TG, and CG PAM dinucleotides. In selections with Cas9: CLTA1, 2, or 3 sgRNA 2.1 under enzyme-excess conditions, 20 AG was the predominate non-canonical PAM (FIGS. 23 and 24). Our results are consistent with another recent study of PAM specificity, which shows that Cas9:sgRNA can recognize AG PAM dinucleotides²³. In addition, our results show that under enzyme-limiting conditions, GG PAM dinucle- 25 otides are highly specified, and under enzyme-excess conditions, non-canonical PAM dinucleotides containing a single G can be tolerated, depending on the guide RNA context.

To confirm that the in vitro selection results accurately reflect the cleavage behavior of Cas9 in vitro, we performed 30 discrete cleavage assays of six CLTA4 off-target substrates containing one to three mutations in the target site. We calculated enrichment values for all sequences in the post-selection libraries for the Cas9:CLTA4 v2.1 sgRNA under enzyme-saturating conditions by dividing the abundance of 35 each sequence in the post-selection library by the calculated abundance in the pre-selection library. Under enzyme-saturating conditions, the single one, two, and three mutation sequences with the highest enrichment values (27.5, 43.9, and mutation sequence with an enrichment value of 1.0 was cleaved to 35%, and a two-mutation sequence with an enrichment value near zero (0.064) was not cleaved. The threemutation sequence, which was cleaved to 77% by CLTA4 v2.1 sgRNA, was cleaved to a lower efficiency of 53% by 45 CLTA4 v1.0 sgRNA (FIG. 28). These results indicate that the selection enrichment values of individual sequences are predictive of in vitro cleavage efficiencies.

To determine if results of the in vitro selection and in vitro cleavage assays pertain to Cas9: guide RNA activity in human 50 cells, we identified 51 off-target sites (19 for CLTA1 and 32 for CLTA4) containing up to eight mutations that were both enriched in the in vitro selection and present in the human genome (Tables 3-5). We expressed Cas9:CLTA1 sgRNA v1.0, Cas9:CLTA1 sgRNA v2.1, Cas9:CLTA4 sgRNA v1.0, 55 Cas9:CLTA4 sgRNA v2.1, or Cas9 without sgRNA in HEK293T cells by transient transfection and used genomic PCR and high-throughput DNA sequencing to look for evidence of Cas9:sgRNA modification at 46 of the 51 off-target sites as well as at the on-target loci; no specific amplified 60 DNA was obtained for five of the 51 predicted off-target sites (three for CLTA1 and two for CLTA4).

Deep sequencing of genomic DNA isolated from HEK293T cells treated with Cas9:CLTA1 sgRNA or Cas9: CLTA4 sgRNA identified sequences evident of non-homolo- 65 gous end-joining (NHEJ) at the on-target sites and at five of the 49 tested off-target sites (CLTA1-1-1, CLTA1-2-2,

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CLTA4-3-1, CLTA4-3-3, and CLTA4-4-8) (Tables 1 and 6-8). The CLTA4 target site was modified by Cas9:CLTA4 v2.1 sgRNA at a frequency of 76%, while off-target sites, CLTA4-3-1 CLTA4-3-3, and CLTA4-4-8, were modified at frequencies of 24%, 0.47% and 0.73%, respectively. The CLTA1 target site was modified by Cas9:CLTA1 v2.1 sgRNA at a frequency of 0.34%, while off-target sites, CLTA1-1-1 and CLTA1-2-2, were modified at frequencies of 0.09% and 0.16%, respectively.

Under enzyme-saturating conditions with the v2.1 sgRNA, the two verified CLTA1 off-target sites, CLTA1-1-1 and CLTA1-2-2, were two of the three most highly enriched sequences identified in the in vitro selection. CLTA4-3-1 and CLTA4-3-3 were the highest and third-highest enriched sequences of the seven CLTA4 three-mutation sequences enriched in the in vitro selection that are also present in the genome. The in vitro selection enrichment values of the fourmutation sequences were not calculated, since 12 out of the 14 CLTA4 sequences in the genome containing four mutations, including CLTA4-4-8, were observed at a level of only one sequence count in the post-selection library. Taken together, these results confirm that several of the off-target substrates identified in the in vitro selection that are present in the human genome are indeed cleaved by Cas9:sgRNA complexes in human cells, and also suggest that the most highly enriched genomic off-target sequences in the selection are modified in cells to the greatest extent.

The off-target sites we identified in cells were among the most-highly enriched in our in vitro selection and contain up to four mutations relative to the intended target sites. While it is possible that heterochromatin or covalent DNA modifications could diminish the ability of a Cas9:guide RNA complex to access genomic off-target sites in cells, the identification of five out of 49 tested cellular off-target sites in this study, rather than zero or many, strongly suggests that Cas9mediated DNA cleavage is not limited to specific targeting of only a 7-12-base pair target sequence, as suggested in recent studies. 11, 12, 19

The cellular genome modification data are also consistent 95.9) were cleaved to ≥71% completion (FIG. 27). A two- 40 with the increase in specificity of sgRNA v1.0 compared to sgRNA v2.1 sgRNAs observed in the in vitro selection data and discrete assays. Although the CLTA1-2-2, CLTA 4-3-3, and CLTA 4-4-8 sites were modified by the Cas9-sgRNA v2.1 complexes, no evidence of modification at any of these three sites was detected in Cas9:sgRNA v1.0-treated cells. The CLTA4-3-1 site, which was modified at 32% of the frequency of on-target CLTA4 site modification in Cas9:v2.1 sgRNAtreated cells, was modified at only 0.5% of the on-target modification frequency in v1.0 sgRNA-treated cells, representing a 62-fold change in selectivity. Taken together, these results demonstrate that guide RNA architecture can have a significant influence on Cas9 specificity in cells. Our specificity profiling findings present an important caveat to recent and ongoing efforts to improve the overall DNA modification activity of Cas9: guide RNA complexes through guide RNA engineering.11, 15

Overall, the off-target DNA cleavage profiling of Cas9 and subsequent analyses show that (i) Cas9:guide RNA recognition extends to 18-20 specified target site base pairs and a two-base pair PAM for the four target sites tested; (ii) increasing Cas9:guide RNA concentrations can decrease DNAcleaving specificity in vitro; (iii) using more active sgRNA architectures can increase DNA-cleavage specificity both in vitro and in cells but impair DNA-cleavage specificity both in vitro and in cells; and (iv) as predicted by our in vitro results, Cas9:guide RNA can modify off-target sites in cells with up to four mutations relative to the on-target site. Our findings

provide key insights to our understanding of RNA-programmed Cas9 specificity, and reveal a previously unknown role for sgRNA architecture in DNA-cleavage specificity. The principles revealed in this study may also apply to Cas9-based effectors engineered to mediate functions beyond DNA 5 cleavage.

Equivalents and Scope

Those skilled in the art will recognize, or be able to ascertain using no more than routine experimentation, many equivalents to the specific embodiments of the invention described herein. The scope of the present invention is not intended to be limited to the above description, but rather is as set forth in the appended claims.

In the claims articles such as "a," "an," and "the" may mean one or more than one unless indicated to the contrary or otherwise evident from the context. Claims or descriptions that include "or" between one or more members of a group are considered satisfied if one, more than one, or all of the group 20 members are present in, employed in, or otherwise relevant to a given product or process unless indicated to the contrary or otherwise evident from the context. The invention includes embodiments in which exactly one member of the group is present in, employed in, or otherwise relevant to a given 25 product or process. The invention also includes embodiments in which more than one, or all of the group members are present in, employed in, or otherwise relevant to a given product or process.

Furthermore, it is to be understood that the invention 30 encompasses all variations, combinations, and permutations in which one or more limitations, elements, clauses, descriptive terms, etc., from one or more of the claims or from relevant portions of the description is introduced into another claim. For example, any claim that is dependent on another 35 claim can be modified to include one or more limitations found in any other claim that is dependent on the same base claim. Furthermore, where the claims recite a composition, it is to be understood that methods of using the composition for any of the purposes disclosed herein are included, and meth- 40 ods of making the composition according to any of the methods of making disclosed herein or other methods known in the art are included, unless otherwise indicated or unless it would be evident to one of ordinary skill in the art that a contradiction or inconsistency would arise.

Where elements are presented as lists, e.g., in Markush group format, it is to be understood that each subgroup of the elements is also disclosed, and any element(s) can be removed from the group. It is also noted that the term "comprising" is intended to be open and permits the inclusion of 50 additional elements or steps. It should be understood that, in general, where the invention, or aspects of the invention, is/are referred to as comprising particular elements, features, steps, etc., certain embodiments of the invention or aspects of the invention consist, or consist essentially of, such elements, 55 features, steps, etc. For purposes of simplicity those embodiments have not been specifically set forth in haec verba herein. Thus for each embodiment of the invention that comprises one or more elements, features, steps, etc., the invention also provides embodiments that consist or consist essen- 60 tially of those elements, features, steps, etc.

Where ranges are given, endpoints are included. Furthermore, it is to be understood that unless otherwise indicated or otherwise evident from the context and/or the understanding of one of ordinary skill in the art, values that are expressed as 65 ranges can assume any specific value within the stated ranges in different embodiments of the invention, to the tenth of the

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unit of the lower limit of the range, unless the context clearly dictates otherwise. It is also to be understood that unless otherwise indicated or otherwise evident from the context and/or the understanding of one of ordinary skill in the art, values expressed as ranges can assume any subrange within the given range, wherein the endpoints of the subrange are expressed to the same degree of accuracy as the tenth of the unit of the lower limit of the range.

In addition, it is to be understood that any particular embodiment of the present invention may be explicitly excluded from any one or more of the claims. Where ranges are given, any value within the range may explicitly be excluded from any one or more of the claims. Any embodiment, element, feature, application, or aspect of the compositions and/or methods of the invention, can be excluded from any one or more claims. For purposes of brevity, all of the embodiments in which one or more elements, features, purposes, or aspects is excluded are not set forth explicitly herein.

Tables

Table 1. Cellular modification induced by Cas9:CLTA4 sgRNA .

33 human genomic DNA sequences were identified that were enriched in the Cas9:CLTA4 v2.1 sgRNA in vitro selections under enzyme-limiting or enzyme-saturating conditions. Sites shown with underline contain insertions or deletions (indels) that are consistent with significant Cas9: sgRNA-mediated modification in HEK293T cells. In vitro enrichment values for selections with Cas9:CLTA4 v1.0 sgRNA or Cas9:CLTA4 v2.1 sgRNA are shown for sequences with three or fewer mutations. Enrichment values were not calculated for sequences with four or more mutations due to low numbers of in vitro selection sequence counts. Modification frequencies (number of sequences with indels divided by total number of sequences) in HEK293T cells treated with Cas9 without sgRNA ("no sgRNA"), Cas9 with CLTA4 v1.0 sgRNA, or Cas9 with CLTA4 v2.1 sgRNA. P-values are listed for those sites that show significant modification in v1.0 sgRNA- or v2.1 sgRNA-treated cells compared to cells treated with Cas9 without sgRNA. "Not tested (n.t.)" indicates that PCR of the genomic sequence failed to provide specific amplification products.

Table 2: Raw selection sequence counts. Positions –4 to –1 are the four nucleotides preceding the 20-base pair target site. PAM1, PAM2, and PAM3 are the PAM positions immediately following the target site. Positions+4 to +7 are the four nucleotides immediately following the PAM.

Table 3: CLTA1 genomic off-target sequences. 20 human genomic DNA sequences were identified that were enriched in the Cas9:CLTA1 v2.1 sgRNA in vitro selections under enzyme-limiting or enzyme-excess conditions. "m" refers to number of mutations from on-target sequence with mutations shown in lower case. Sites shown with underline contain insertions or deletions (indels) that are consistent with significant Cas9:sgRNA-mediated modification in HEK293T cells. Human genome coordinates are shown for each site (assembly GRCh37). CLTA1-0-1 is present at two loci, and sequence counts were pooled from both loci. Sequence counts are shown for amplified and sequenced DNA for each site from HEK293T cells treated with Cas9 without sgRNA ("no sgRNA"), Cas9 with CLTA1 v1.0 sgRNA, or Cas9 with CLTA1 v2.1 sgRNA.

Table 4: CLTA4 genomic off-target sequences. 33 human genomic DNA sequences were identified that were enriched in the Cas9:CLTA4 v2.1 sgRNA in vitro selections under

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enzyme-limiting or enzyme-excess conditions. "m" refers to number of mutations from on-target sequence with mutations shown in lower case. Sites shown with underline contain insertions or deletions (indels) that are consistent with significant Cas9:sgRNA-mediated modification in HEK293T cells. Human genome coordinates are shown for each site (assembly GRCh37). Sequence counts are shown for amplified and sequenced DNA for each site from HEK293T cells treated with Cas9 without sgRNA ("no sgRNA"), Cas9 with CLTA4 v1.0 sgRNA, or Cas9 with CLTA4 v2.1 sgRNA.

Table 5: genomic coordinates of CLTA1 and CLTA4 off-target sites. 54 human genomic DNA sequences were identified that were enriched in the Cas9:CLTA1 v2.1 sgRNA and Cas9:CLTA4 v2.1 sgRNA in vitro selections under enzymelimiting or enzyme-excess conditions. Human genome coordinates are shown for each site (assembly GRCh37).

Table 6: Cellular modification induced by Cas9:CLTA1 sgRNA. 20 human genomic DNA sequences were identified that were enriched in the Cas9:CLTA1 v2.1 sgRNA in vitro 20 selections under enzyme-limiting or enzyme-excess conditions. Sites shown with underline contain insertions or deletions (indels) that are consistent with significant Cas9: sgRNA-mediated modification in HEK293T cells. In vitro enrichment values for selections with Cas9:CLTA1 v1.0 25 sgRNA or Cas9:CLTA1 v2.1 sgRNA are shown for sequences with three or fewer mutations. Enrichment values were not calculated for sequences with four or more mutations due to low numbers of in vitro selection sequence counts. Modification frequencies (number of sequences with indels divided 30 by total number of sequences) in HEK293T cells treated with Cas9 without sgRNA ("no sgRNA"), Cas9 with CLTA1 v1.0 sgRNA, or Cas9 with CLTA1 v2.1 sgRNA. P-values of sites that show significant modification in v1.0 sgRNA- or v2.1 sgRNA-treated cells compared to cells treated with Cas9 35 without sgRNA were 1.1E-05 (v1.0) and 6.9E-55 (v2.1) for CLTA1-0-1, 2.6E-03 (v1.0) and 2.0E-10 (v2.1) for CLTA1-1-1, and 4.6E-08 (v2.1) for CLTA1-2-2. P-values were calculated using a one-sided Fisher exact test. "Not tested (n.t.)"

indicates that the site was not tested or PCR of the genomic sequence failed to provide specific amplification products.

Table 7: CLTA1 genomic off-target indel sequences. Insertion and deletion-containing sequences from cells treated with amplified and sequenced DNA for the on-target genomic sequence (CLTA1-0-1) and each modified off-target site from HEK293T cells treated with Cas9 without sgRNA ("no sgRNA"), Cas9 with CLTA1 v1.0 sgRNA, or Cas9 with CLTA1 v2.1 sgRNA. "ref" refers to the human genome reference sequence for each site, and the modified sites are listed below. Mutations relative to the on-target genomic sequence are shown in lowercase letters. Insertions and deletions are shown in underlined bold letters or dashes, respectively. Modification percentages are shown for those conditions (v1.0 sgRNA or v2.1 sgRNA) that show statistically significant enrichment of modified sequences compared to the control (no sgRNA).

Table 8: CLTA4 genomic off-target indel sequences. Insertion and deletion-containing sequences from cells treated with amplified and sequenced DNA for the on-target genomic sequence (CLTA4-0-1) and each modified off-target site from HEK293T cells treated with Cas9 without sgRNA ("no sgRNA"), Cas9 with CLTA4 v1.0 sgRNA, or Cas9 with CLTA4 v2.1 sgRNA. "ref" refers to the human genome reference sequence for each site, and the modified sites are listed below. Mutations relative to the on-target genomic sequence are shown in lowercase letters. Insertions and deletions are shown in underlined bold letters or dashes, respectively. Modification percentages are shown for those conditions (v1.0 sgRNA or v2.1 sgRNA) that show statistically significant enrichment of modified sequences compared to the control (no sgRNA).

Table 9: Oligonucleotides used in this study. All oligonucleotides were purchased from Integrated DNA Technologies. An asterisk (*) indicates that the preceding nucleotide was incorporated as a hand mix of phosphoramidites consisting of 79 mol % of the phosphoramidite corresponding to the preceding nucleotide and 4 mol % of each of the other three canonical phosphoramidites. "/SPhos/" denotes a 5' phosphate group installed during synthesis.

TABLE 1

	# of							ritro chment
	Mutations	s sequence	SEQ	ID 1	NO.	gene	v1.0	v2.1
CLTA4-0-1	0	GCAGATGTAGTGTTTCCACAGGG	SEQ	ID 1	NO:	58 <u>CLTA</u>	20	7.95
<u>CLTA4-3-1</u>	3	<u>aCAtATGTAGTaTTTCCACAGGG</u>	SEQ	ID 1	NO:	59	<u>16.5</u>	<u>12.5</u>
CLTA4-3-2	3	GCAtATGTAGTGTTTCCAaATGt	SEQ	ID 1	NO:	60	2.99	6.97
<u>CLTA4-3-3</u>	3	<u>cCAGATGTAGTaTTcCCACAGGG</u>	SEQ	ID 1	NO:	61 <u>CELF1</u>	<u>1.00</u>	<u>4.95</u>
CLTA4-3-4	3	GCAGtTtTAGTGTTTtCACAGGG	SEQ	ID 1	NO:	62 BC073807	0.79	3.12
CLTA4-3-5	3	GCAGAgtTAGTGTTTCCACACaG	SEQ	ID 1	NO:	63 MPPED2	0	1.22
CLTA4-3-6	3	GCAGATGgAGgGTTTt CACAGGG	SEQ	ID 1	NO:	64 DCHS2	1.57	1.17
CLTA4-3-7	3	GgAaATtTAGTGTTTCCACAGGG	SEQ	ID 1	NO:	65	0.43	0.42
CLTA4-4-1	4	aaAGAaGTAGTaTTTCCACATGG	SEQ	ID 1	NO:	66		
CLTA4-4-2	4	aaAGATGTAGTcaTTCCACAAGG	SEQ	ID 1	NO:	67		
CLTA4-4-3	4	aaAtATGTAGTcTTTCCACAGGG	SEQ	ID 1	NO:	68		
CLTA4-4-4	4	atAGATGTAGTGTTTCCAaAGGa	SEQ	ID 1	NO:	69 NR1H4		
CLTA4-4-5	4	cCAGAGGTAGTGcTcCCACAGGG	SEQ	ID 1	NO:	70		

CLTA4-4-6	4	cCAGATGTgagGTTTCCAC	CAAGG S	EQ ID NO:	71 XKR	5	
CLTA4-4-7	4	ctAcATGTAGTGTTTCCAt	:ATGG S	EQ ID NO:	72 HKR	L	
<u>CLTA4-4-8</u>	4	ctAGATGaAGTGcTTCCAG	CATGG S	EQ ID NO:	73 <u>CDK</u> 8	<u>3</u>	
CLTA4-4-9	4	GaAaATGgAGTGTTTaCAG	CATGG S	EQ ID NO:	74		
CLTA4-4-10	4	GCAaATGaAGTGTcaCCAC	CAAGG S	EQ ID NO:	75		
CLTA4-4-11	4	GCAaATGTAtTaTTTCCAC	CtAGG S	EQ ID NO:	76 NOV		
CLTA4-4-12	4	GCAGATGTAGctTTTgtAG	CATGG S	EQ ID NO:	77		
CLTA4-4-13	4	GCAGcTt aAGTGTTTt CAC	CATGG S	EQ ID NO:	78 GRHI	2	
CLTA4-4-14	4	ttAcATGTAGTGTTTaCA(CACGG S	EQ ID NO:	79 LIN	000535	
CLTA4-5-1	5	GaAGAgGaAGTGTTTgCcC	CAGGG S	EQ ID NO:	80 RNH	L	
CLTA4-5-2	5	GaAGATGTgGaGTTgaCAC	CATGG S	EQ ID NO:	81 FZD3	3	
CLTA4-5-3	5	GCAGAaGTAcTGTTgttA0	CAAGG S	EQ ID NO:	82		
CLTA4-5-4	5	GCAGATGTgGaaTTaCaAG	CAGGG S	EQ ID NO:	83 SLC	9A2	
CLTA4-5-5	5	GCAGtcaTAGTGTaTaCAC	CATGG S	EQ ID NO:	84		
CLTA4-5-6	5	taAGATGTAGTaTTTCCAa	aAAGt S	EQ ID NO:	85		
CLTA4-6-1	6	GCAGcTGgcaTtTcTCCA(CACGG S	EQ ID NO:	86		
CLTA4-6-2	6	GgAGATcTgaTGgTTCtA0	CAAGG S	EQ ID NO:	87		
CLTA4-6-3	6	taAaATGcAGTGTaTCCAt	ATGG S	EQ ID NO:	88 SMA	1	
CLTA4-7-1	7	GCcagaaTAGTtTTTCaA(CAAGG S	EQ ID NO:	89 SEPI	HS2	
CLTA4-7-2	8	ttgtATtTAGaGaTTgCA0	CAAGG S	EQ ID NO:	90 RORI	3	
				ation fre EK293T ce		P-7	value
			no sgRNA	v1.0	v2.1	v1.0	v2.1
		<u>CLTA4-0-1</u>	0.021%	11%	<u>76%</u>	<1E-55	<1E-55
		<u>CLTA4-3-1</u>	0.006%	0.055%	24%	6.0E-04	<1E-55
		CLTA4-3-2	0.017%	0%	0.014%		
		<u>CLTA4-3-3</u>	<u>0%</u>	<u>0</u> %	0.469%		<u>2.5E-21</u>
		CLTA4-3-4	0%	0%	0%		
		CLTA4-3-5	0.005%	0.015%	0.018%		
		CLTA4-3-6	0.015%	0.023%	0.021%		
		CLTA4-3-7	0.005%	0.012%	0.003%		
		CLTA4-4-1	n.t.	n.t.	n.t.		
		CLTA4-4-2	0.004%	0%	0.005%		
		CLTA4-4-2 CLTA4-4-3					
			0.004%	0.009%	0%		
		CLTA4-4-3	0.004%	0.009%	0% 0.052%		

CLTA4-4-7 0.006%

0% 0.008%

TABLE 1-continued

CLTA4-4-8	0.009%	0.013%	0.730%	9.70E-21
CLTA4-4-9	0%	0%	0.004%	
CLTA4-4-10	0.004%	0%	0%	
CLTA4-4-11	0%	0.00%	0%	
CLTA4-4-12	0%	0.00%	0%	
CLTA4-4-13	0.020%	0.02%	0.030%	
CLTA4-4-14	n.t.	n.t.	n.t.	
CLTA4-5-1	0.004%	0.01%	0.006%	
CLTA4-5-2	0.004%	0.00%	0%	
CLTA4-5-3	0.002%	0.00%	0.003%	
CLTA4-5-4	0%	0.00%	0%	
CLTA4-5-5	0.004%	0.00%	0.005%	
CLTA4-5-6	0.007%	0.01%	0%	
CLTA4-6-1	n.t.	n.t.	n.t.	
CLTA4-6-2	0.007%	0.00%	0.009%	
CLTA4-6-3	0.015%	0.00%	0%	
CLTA4-7-1	0%	0.00%	0.007%	
CLTA4-7-2	0%	0.00%	0%	

LE 2	
TABLE	

							100 n	M Cas9:CLTA1	TABLE Z 100 nM Cas9:CLTA1 v2.1 sgRNA	NA.						
-4 -3 -2 -1 1 2	-2 -1 1	-1 1	1		2			4	5	9	7	∞	6	10	11	12
212906 240335 195549 240068 1.04E+06 72751 4 282295 248395 263973 260202 37925 32496 22 214213 219078 220275 189578 61062 1.04E+06 25 493854 498460 526471 516420 64694 59173 1.1.1	195549 240068 1.04E+06 72751 263973 260202 37925 32496 220275 189578 61062 1.04E+06 526471 516420 64694 59173	240068 1.04E+06 72751 260202 37925 33496 189578 61062 1.04E+06 516420 64694 59173	1.04E+06 72751 37925 32496 61062 1.04E+06 64694 59173	72751 32496 1.04E+06 59173		4 2 2 1.1	40206 24822 25785 1.12E+06	62972 1.10E+06 11117 35336	41734 1.12E+06 9125 34236	17376 4244 5423 1.14E+06	18710 1.16E+06 5745 20532	1.17E+06 5339 5121 24018	24455 22096 8080 1.15E+06	83195 1.06E+06 14905 50488	46083 48105 8906 1.10E+06	33528 1.14E+06 3732 32417
							1000 п	M Cas9:CL1	1000 nM Cas9:CLTA1 v1.0 sgRNA	NA						
-4 -3 -2 -1 1 2	-2 -1 1	-1 1	1		2		3	4	5	9	7	∞	6	10	11	12
154613 184336 154288 177436 805105 66777 227144 201856 215667 220894 30269 30133 163868 174062 177891 148150 47940 784264 380059 37430 386838 388204 51370 53510 33510	184336 154288 177436 805105 66777 201856 215667 220894 30269 30133 174062 177891 148150 47940 784264 374430 386838 388204 51370 53510	177436 805105 66777 220894 30269 30133 148150 47940 784264 388204 51370 53510	805105 66777 30269 30133 47940 784264 51370 53510	66777 30133 784264 53510		· · ·	43354 24249 26342 840739	56461 825333 17972 34918	32941 865486 10299 25958	15531 35164 6332 877657	19465 889622 5785 19812	904223 5488 5938 19035	19696 17340 9185 888463	56566 828521 11560 38037	35200 36975 10641 851868	26674 876790 3020 28200
							1000 п	M Cas9:CL1	1000 nM Cas9:CLTA1 v2.1 sgRNA	NA						
-4 -3 -2 -1 1 2	-2 -1 1	-1	1		2		ю	4	5	9	7	∞	6	10	11	12
104782 127116 103361 124521 554601 40232 154144 136337 145670 146754 20057 19440 113998 119668 120741 103026 32861 547445 267467 257270 270619 266090 32872 33274 3	127116 103361 124521 554601 40232 136337 145670 146754 20057 19440 119668 120741 103026 32861 547445 257270 270619 266090 32872 33274	124521 554601 40232 146754 20057 19440 103026 32861 547445 266090 32872 33274	554601 40232 20057 19440 32861 547445 32872 33274	40232 19440 547445 33274		I ''	29541 17922 18468 574460	38710 569754 9314 22613	23659 590426 6346 19960	10435 25233 3908 600815	11462 612203 4295 12431	618404 3834 3719 14434	14608 15297 5851 604635	41826 561351 10887 26327	27762 26392 15360 570877	19590 592757 5605 22439
							CL	TA1 pre-sel	CLTA1 pre-selection library							
-4 -3 -2 -1 1 2	-2 -1 1	-1 1	1		2		33	4	S	9	7	∞	6	10	11	12
241543 217144 209045 198284 943175 103452 254366 268805 276090 322860 52984 65855 230024 196574 210445 180859 60496 857631 40559 446000 433943 427520 72868 102585 9	209045 198284 943175 103452 276090 322860 52984 65855 210445 180859 60496 857631 433943 427520 72868 102585	198284 943175 103452 322860 52984 65855 180859 60496 857631 427520 72868 102585	943175 103452 52984 65855 60496 857631 72868 102585	103452 65855 857631 102585		J	76259 58943 66783 927538	106919 834238 89366 99000	124476 812029 85315 107703	59762 52168 67098 950495	108373 839963 77499 103688	937511 54708 59257 78047	65477 43285 71824 948937	110282 831610 89579 98052	67774 50109 68090 943550	96299 861358 66121 105745
							100 n	M Cas9:CLT	100 nM Cas9:CLTA2 v2.1 sgRNA	NA						
-4 -3 -2 -1 1 2	-2 -1 1	-1	1		2		ю	4	5	9	7	∞	6	10	11	12
109129 135587 94032 141748 5.74E+04 44802 155710 138970 207735 220443 529643 24503 136555 142038 118241 105620 39991 2.11E+04 266918 251717 248304 200501 41277 577893	135587 94032 141748 5.74E+04 138970 207735 220443 5.29643 142038 118241 105620 39991 251717 248304 200501 41277	141748 5.74E+04 220443 529643 105620 39991 200501 41277	5.74E+04 529643 39991 41277		44802 24503 2.11E+04 577893		48284 566049 26481 2.75E+04	24464 6.27E+05 3756 13008	11611 6.46E+05 3627 7318	16668 19040 2889 6.30E+05	6282 6.52E+05 2488 7487	6.58E+05 2351 3025 4920	655917 2577 3202 6.62E+03	28909 1.30E+04 609865 16554	24210 617274 8312 1.85E+04	656617 2.64E+03 5889 3165
						1 1	1000 п	M Cas9:CL1	1000 nM Cas9:CLTA2 v1.0 sgRNA	NA						
-4 -3 -2 -1 1 2	-2 -1 1	-1 1	1		2		3	4	5	9	7	8	6	10	11	12
94138 115628 85485 120676 52411 41438 140695 125708 179224 191394 452192 21517	115628 85485 120676 52411 125708 179224 191394 452192	120676 52411 191394 452192	52411 452192		41438 21517		46093 481298	22399 538392	9066 557549	14310 16233	5351 562576	567337 1973	565061 2127	24132 11807	23848 525901	556483 4992

118054	118054	100	101836	91048	35101	18969		TABLE 2-continued 3440 2802	continued 2802	2960	2526	2895	2793	526655	9738	8100
228367 217053 209898 173125 36739 494	217053 209898 173125 36739	173125 36739	36739	`	494	519	26255 1000 n	12212 M Cas9:CLI	5255 12212 7026 5- 1000 nM Cas9:CLTA2 v2.1 sgRNA	542940 NA	5990	4238	6462	13849	16956	4868
-4 -3 -2 -1 1 2	-2 -1 1	-1 1	1			2	ю	4	\$	9	7	∞	6	10	11	12
64249 81812 58977 85387 35172 29833 96983 67918 124642 127760 316077 14548 77913 80500 68612 64299 23522 15748 160415 149330 147329 122114 24789 339431	81812 58977 85387 35172 67918 124642 127760 316077 80500 68612 64299 23522 149330 147329 122114 24789 3	85387 35172 127760 316077 64299 23522 122114 24789 3	35172 316077 23522 24789	ri ei	2983 1454 1574 33943	1.888.3	33434 327166 19664 19296	19419 364874 3856 11411	9272 380987 3035 6266	13136 11360 2752 372312	4907 387025 2062 5566	391675 1694 2398 3793	389930 1815 2439 5376	19852 8124 360755 10829	16657 363374 7431 12098	383605 5168 6019 4768
							CC	FA2 pre-sele	CLTA2 pre-selection library							
-4 -3 -2 -1 1 2	-2 -1 1	-1 1	1		2		3	4	5	9	7	8	6	10	11	12
203147 173899 167999 170203 89970 73770 181430 214835 246369 272618 632831 41977 177090 153006 151178 140868 58664 49976 285951 305878 282072 263929 66153 681895	173899 167999 170203 89970 214835 246369 272618 632831 153006 151178 140868 58664 305878 282072 263929 66153 6	170203 89970 272618 632831 140868 58664 263929 66153 6	89970 632831 58664 66153 6		73770 41977 49976 681895	1	88239 641062 60827 57490	88611 644565 56077 58365	76114 670872 52341 48291	78589 40877 49259 678893	75016 649838 55484 67280	726091 38931 39801 42795	712150 44961 38939 51838	96111 46591 630670 74246	90307 628706 55013 73592	728931 32296 38368 48023
						ı	100 nN	A Cas9:CLT	100 nM Cas9:CLT3A v2.1 sgRNA	NA						
-4 -3 -2 -1 1 2	-2 -1 1	-1 1	1		2		3	4	5	9	7	8	6	10	11	12
212836 248582 202151 249368 9.13E+04 77392 233270 241259 274819 305120 37894 35918 211701 187534 185281 196614 66632 9.88E+05 480761 461193 476317 387466 942707 37284	202151 249368 9.13E+04 274819 305120 37894 185281 196614 66632 476317 387466 942707	249368 9.13E+04 305120 37894 196614 66632 387466 942707	9.13E+04 37894 66632 942707		77392 35918 9.88E+05 37284	i	19048 13930 26572 1.08E+06	39738 5.61E+03 1074020 19204	1078520 1.22E+04 12936 34885	1106930 3774 9205 1.87E+04	46196 6.35E+03 1066570 19450	1.12E+06 4063 7418 111145	64461 6018 1050360 1.77E+04	11912 1.11E+06 3828 13689	30992 27501 3949 1.08E+06	21158 4.68E+04 2231 1068370
						ıl	1000 п	M Cas9:CLI	1000 nM Cas9:CLTA3 v1.0 sgRNA	NA						
-4 -3 -2 -1 1 2	-2 -1 1	-1 1	1		2		3	4	5	9	7	&	6	10	11	12
219833 263464 207913 264018 97886 78562 240570 261247 311444 333414 39996 40484 221683 206195 199246 215583 76580 1032080 506611 457791 470094 375682 974235 37571	207913 264018 97886 311444 333414 39996 199246 215583 76580 10 470094 375682 974235	264018 97886 333414 39996 215583 76580 10 375682 974235	97886 39996 76580 10 974235	10	78562 40484 1032080 37571		20663 13961 24785 1129290	39724 5323 1126840 16811	1136320 11099 12654 28626	1151200 5475 12465 19560	42966 10323 1114450 20956	1156400 6501 12075 13723	49443 8456 1113930 16864	18669 1126310 12078 31636	44652 36792 19275 1087980	44644 56203 9014 1078840
						i l	1000 n	M Cas9:CLI	1000 nM Cas9:CLTA3 v2.1 sgRNA	NA						
-4 -3 -2 -1 1 2	-2 -1 1	-1 1	1		2		3	4	5	9	7	8	6	10	11	12
169775 206549 166197 201768 75243 67150 197800 209445 243688 264177 32775 34540 174766 158928 158824 16825 58121 801768 394073 361492 367705 302144 770275 32956	206549 166197 201768 75243 209445 243688 264177 32775 15828 15824 168325 58121 361492 367705 302144 770275	201768 75243 264177 32775 168325 58121 302144 770275	8 75243 7 32775 5 58121 4 770275		67150 34540 801768 32956		20449 14250 26558 875157	36549 7885 866689 25291	876154 14793 13343 32124	898360 4878 12052 21124	39901 7791 868394 20328	911344 4636 8837 11597	44415 7510 867980 16509	13218 890591 7923 24682	37301 28425 14022 856666	33080 46269 6553 850512

TABLE 2-continued

					7 4 2. 2.												
	12	56547 34830 30118 571502		12	38891 2.03E+04 497382 4222		12	77253 29610 879985 12225		12	41618 18001 439828 6732		12	122618 90384 663922 74579		L+	301956 309690
	11	61770 32233 43243 555751		11	34194 16846 27411 4.82E+05		11	65094 30389 44730 858860		11	40021 19152 23076 423930		11	115133 73106 88125 675139		9+	222343 264354
	10	41265 559715 41949 50068		10	29521 2.35E+04 498832 8877		10	50181 32501 902733 13658		10	29769 19017 450120 7273		10	126564 84973 672860 67106		+5	223887 273777
	6	72610 46032 501888 72467		6	550200 2481 4528 3.55E+03		6	980248 5069 8303 5453		6	498471 1961 3281 2466		6	824537 45318 49093 32555		4	2351 <i>67</i> 211027
	∞	528947 52201 49753 62096		∞	2.59E+04 35217 14899 484788		∞	30383 47831 19640 901219		∞	17728 28594 10260 449597		∞	123366 77470 89897 660770		PAM3	574 152
	7	70249 61591 479149 82008		7	54151 7.10E+03 493432 6071		7	95476 10779 883325 9493		7	47470 5436 448784 4489		7	133349 73916 67352 70486		PAM2	1386 167
	9	566722 36129 34068 56078	NA	9	19446 15601 9951 5.16E+05	NA	9	29201 29948 13455 926469	NA	9	16818 16232 6863 466266		9	99163 59551 62837 729952	NA	PAM1	261056 210095
ction library	S	575295 38933 29873 48896	100 nM Cas9:CLTA4 v2.1 sgRNA	S	544918 5.14E+03 6156 4541	1000 nM Cas9:CLTA4 v1.0 sgRNA	S	975924 7541 9285 6323	1000 nM Cas9:CLTA4 v2.1 sgRNA	S	493315 4303 5084 3477	CLTA4 pre-selection library	v	840417 44890 30709 35487	100 nM Cas9:CLTA1 v2.1 sgRNA	20	4237 1.19E+06
CLTA3 pre-selection library	4	66315 34668 531723 60291	M Cas9:CLT	4	29962 1.21E+04 504358 14300	M Cas9:CLI	4	50295 17266 907007 24505	M Cas9:CLI	4	27627 10916 453870 13766	LA4 pre–sele	4	103844 65558 708098 74003	M Cas9:CLT	19	2032 969
; 	8	37040 28129 42217 585611	100 п]	3	525585 4498 14868 1.58E+04	1000 n	ю	928773 8606 29776 31918	1000 п	ю	471218 4452 14989 15520	CL	က	820923 29748 51484 49348	100 m]	18	1.20E+06 628
	2	69486 40142 534378 48991		2	58148 428628 4.70E+04 26956		2	116745 745345 85777 51206		2	54587 384037 42360 25195		2	103294 722264 68240 57705		17	1.19E+06 4363
		50365 25902 42860 573870		П	8.09E+04 22088 415632 42090		-	151224 34420 742232 71197			72554 18730 379024 35871		-	127160 50833 695802 77708		16	32237 1.13E+06
	17	142599 177240 128304 244854		-1	81833 130495 133275 215155		7	141850 243819 225343 388061		-1	72698 122579 118084 192818		-	132368 283453 183111 352571		15	4582 4090
	-2	138244 162646 130592 261515		-2	78867 139480 82959 259452		-2	145156 260676 153474 439767		-2	71535 133622 76726 224296		-2	131941 277233 134399 407930		14	8551 9668 1.14E+06 1.18E+06
	-3	135327 158534 132826 266310		-3	78101 162082 75785 244790		٣	141261 297215 139073 421524		-3	70467 151636 69972 214104		-3	131577 297419 137027 385480		13	8551 1.14E+06
	4-	173122 143788 137601 238486		4	55030 168401 89302 248025		4	95188 305024 159888 438973		4	47674 154985 80869 222651		4	106798 304597 146240 393868		position	ΥO
	position	A C C T		position	H G C A		position	A C C T		position	A C C A		position	A C C A			

						T	FABLE 2-continued	ontinued							
G	3294 57980	3867 13065	3597 1.19E+06	7260 36826	3400 8959	2474 3966	1.19E+06 9354	1301 8065	238989 496128	1.20E+06 475	1.21E+06 211	205765 554309	222282 486322	240526 479045	217260 377362
						1000 п	1000 nM Cas9:CLTA1 v1.0 sgRNA	A1 v1.0 sgR	NA						
position	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	PAM1	PAM2	PAM3	++	+5	9+	+7
A C G	7925 880022 2819 43918	9269 908816 3185 13414	4859 4419 2994 922412	32891 859691 6763 35339	910633 5694 3631 14726	925527 776 2894 5487	3595 2120 916417 12552	5976 920211 1415 7082	183479 180463 193418 377324	1390 120 932808 366	413 88 934044 139	182704 180657 172551 398772	171051 220438 172071 371124	174062 211411 176484 372727	221899 245967 161703 305115
						1000 n	1000 nM Cas9:CLTA1 v2.1 sgRNA	'A1 v2.1 sgR	NA						
position	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	PAM1	PAM2	PAM3	4	+5	9+	+7
A C G	8961 594469 3378 33583	19434 616112 3517 1328	9549 11645 5896 613301	35083 553993 22551 28764	604115 13212 8658 14406	607264 4438 12770 15919	4665 5146 613580 17000	16515 590160 3712 30004	125225 116022 121392 277752	10391 329 628464 1207	2519 138 637588 146	125288 123802 118800 272501	114575 154249 113560 258007	120476 146572 118464 254879	149847 166531 111278 212735
						CE	CLTA1 pre-selection library	ction library							
position	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	PAM1	PAM2	PAM3	4	+5	9+	L+7
A C G	88029 841819 86080 113595	109977 817157 96496 105893	62686 51676 81367 933794	119399 797914 104949 107261	931093 60106 52143 86181	908362 52998 77389 90774	64248 4231 <i>7</i> 918970 103988	111479 813253 96000 108791	190574 239201 192652 507096	97896 56843 879150 95634	104002 59450 870948 95123	183367 289074 196672 460410	178912 295400 202194 453017	198049 289007 196499 445968	219754 284268 202544 422957
						100 nl	100 nM Cas9:CLTA2 v2.1 sgRNA	A2 v2.1 sgRl	NA						
position	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	PAM1	PAM2	PAM3	4	+5	9+	+7
A C G	59160 1.48E+04 581322 13024	36601 9.12E+03 606454 16134	2974 660929 1564 2.85E+03	12980 6.50E+05 2134 3253	3.27E+03 660305 1819 2918	1.09E+03 666122 89 1016	17686 1314 6.44E+05 4886	689 6.65E+05 505 2608	193742 42664 137388 294518	284 48 6.68E+05 146	129 43 6.68E+05 42	143150 162563 103305 259294	165553 111729 146355 244675	136708 143442 139972 248190	146056 177253 124772 220231
						1000 n	1000 nM Cas9:CLTA2 v1.0 sgRNA	A2 v1.0 sgR	NA						
position	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	PAM1	PAM2	PAM3	4+	+5	9+	+7
A C G	49577 13617 495156 18093	39401 13316 496382 27344	5425 563557 1789 5672	30774 535780 3325 6564	6408 560658 1846 7531	5055 567693 166 3529	36081 4938 519782 15642	2573 569653 520 3697	148145 46472 125177 256649	782 70 575395 196	243 45 576103 52	132801 133402 118877 191363	126862 123970 108849 216762	118528 130555 104210 223150	122897 148756 103370 201420

						, 000,									
						1000	nM Cas9:CL	1000 nM Cas9:CLTA2 v2.1 sgRNA	SNA 						
position	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	PAM1	PAM2	PAM3	++	+5	9+	+7
A C G	32780 9569 344511 12700	22855 9710 350245 16750	9722 374342 1559 13937	25181 355544 5882 12953	12518 373485 1339 12218	17950 370343 391 10876	28198 11652 331376 28334	5471 378841 1034 14214	100745 40532 74803 183480	4933 238 393760 629	834 34 398660 32	89339 93621 79776 136824	87351 87920 75927 148362	82615 91380 74068 151497	85108 105625 70435 138392
						CI	.TA2 pre-sel	CLTA2 pre-selection library	٨						
position	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	PAM1	PAM2	PAM3	4	\$	9	L+7
A C C P	91515 49519 627263 79321	84764 46571 642878 73405	79586 641958 59549 66525	86205 624548 55292 81573	87337 637703 53056 69522	85547 635473 57979 68619	92983 51727 616575 86333	100316 594349 66553 86400	177716 136372 158929 374601	84144 41282 656315 65877	88017 41689 654970 62942	177831 216880 162242 290665	180209 206368 160704 300337	176904 210039 157741 302934	174190 235263 138890 299275
						100 n	M Cas9:CL1	100 nM Cas9:CLT3A v2.1 sgRNA	NA						
position	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	PAMI	PAM2	PAM3	4	\$	9+	L+
A C C T	6465 1.12E+06 2504 9829	1130430 1.96E+03 2471 3709	4097 1129400 1726 3.34E+03	5750 1.82E+03 2881 1128120	7.71E+04 3421 1081680 6398	1.14E+06 167 876 1320	6151 1451 1.13E+06 4480	2047 6.66E+02 600 1135260	305062 261609 228865 343032	1993 103 1.14E+06 211	394 82 1.14E+06 69	213566 319990 142425 462587	240851 253055 192720 451942	230230 261338 220683 426317	252637 293644 227840 364447
						10001	ıΜ Cas9:CL	1000 nM Cas9:CLTA3 v1.0 sgRNA	₹NA						
position	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	PAMI	PAM2	PAM3	4	4-5	9+	L+
A G T	44771 1096280 7707 39940	1152540 8437 9466 18250	16264 1156840 2708 12883	30980 8448 17195 1132070	71714 25120 1053760 38103	1156700 4351 10278 17372	47106 24685 1085310 31596	27658 9473 10308 1141260	276285 297135 238545 376732	36304 1331 1148550 2514	12701 939 1174510 550	219034 354289 171862 443512	239515 298216 193096 457870	244440 277740 217301 449216	255360 292917 239319 401101
						10001	1M Cas9:CL	1000 nM Cas9:CLTA3 v2.1 sgRNA	₹NA						
position	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	PAM1	PAM2	PAM3	4	\$	9	+7
A G T	26409 870864 3393 35748	893670 7991 7912 26841	6315 910584 1499 18016	20807 5931 12906 896770	52541 19923 836022 27928	903619 4977 9011 18807	33690 18171 859600 24953	20904 6508 8302 900700	205940 229797 190011 310666	26623 1163 906628 2000	9880 693 925513 328	172210 283240 132620 348344	182986 240802 153591 359035	187305 224453 172169 352487	196429 236469 187623 315893
						CI	TA3 pre-sel	CLTA3 pre-selection library	1						
position	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	PAM1	PAM2	PAM3	+4	+5	9+	L+
V O	75555 519328	586476 30904	61203	51740 24982	70943 45344	569277 35359	70484 44014	50807 35778	130402 174938	57527 42259	61702 46083	110207	118993 190347	126967 184768	127707 207347

	118423 127230 262839 230713		L+ 9+	63224 54815 146401 190955 75123 91454 276010 223534		£+ 9+	110844 99920 258929 338099 136512 165750 492788 395304		L+ 9+	56451 51102 134293 171499 71600 85239 243835 198339		L+ 9+	109315 101198 258029 295144 146268 151560 437891 403601
	119846 1 263811 2		+5	56902 164035 17627 262194 2		+5	96664 1 297152 2: 139784 1: 465473 4		+5	49017 153105 72063 231994 2		+5	103082 10281433 20158224 10408764 44
	113323 268033		4	77633 141123 84257 257745		4	142460 252462 154302 449849		4	68943 126313 85849 225074		+4	111015 266156 163824 410508
	527404 57808		PAM3	1401 473 5.58E+05 495		PAM3	12390 4791 976818 5074		PAM3	16967 8965 471647 8600		PAM3	83605 55530 732891 79477
	539445 53766		PAM2	4642 655 5.55E+05 911		PAM2	28536 2556 964013 3968		PAM2	22041 3529 474540 6069		PAM2	82110 57603 740525 71265
	137307 250350	NA	PAM1	47731 152056 72296 288675	NA	PAM1	80159 257985 139488 521441	NA	PAM1	36128 122541 87517 259993	y	PAM1	87755 278802 151536 433410
continued	45203 561209	100 nM Cas9:CLTA4 v2.1 sgRNA	20	540029 3.02E+03 4637 13069	1000 nM Cas9:CLTA4 v1.0 sgRNA	20	887311 23749 20095 67918	1000 nM Cas9:CLTA4 v2.1 sgRNA	20	451298 11832 10184 32865	CLTA4 pre-selection library	20	793806 42188 59162 56347
TABLE 2-continued	516177 62322	M Cas9:CLI	19	1994 546119 1.45E+03 11194	ıM Cas9:CĽ	19	19900 940504 7346 31323	ıM Cas9:CĽ	19	12667 469503 5302 18707	.TA4 pre-sel	19	75877 754283 54424 66919
I	36956 51405	100 n	18	5.51E+05 5715 554 3692	1000 I	18	942989 34590 4103 17391	1000 I	18	478335 15631 3083 9130	CI	18	806675 55522 42574 46732
	515778 60932		17	5.36E+03 547711 3162 4528		17	39984 900777 17373 40939		17	2697 480543 7112 15827		17	76163 776738 41427 57175
	37275 579000		16	25122 5.22E+05 3926 9437		16	55244 887446 12432 43951		16	27974 445302 7558 25345		16	99908 738550 47550 65495
	34082 56735		15	15243 5182 3716 5.37E+05		15	32933 21400 8429 936311		15	16409 13497 5456 470817		15	96384 66776 58440 729903
	34282 41335		14	23991 8.47E+03 3344 524958		14	41050 25910 7879 924234		14	23050 12845 5091 465193		14	107761 76978 53472 713292
	38922 59192		13	26542 3.69E+04 6729 490573		13	42674 61641 16677 878081		13	24741 35213 7741 438484		13	108492 78280 67768 696963
	G T		position	A C C T		position	A G G		position	A C G		position	A G T

TABLE 3

			BLE 3				
		no s	gRNA	v1.0	sgRNA	v2.1	sgRNA
	m sequence	modified sequences	total sequences	modified sequences	total sequences	modified sequences	total sequences
<u>CLTA1-0-1</u>	<u>0</u> AGTCCTCATCTCCCTCAAGCAGG (SEQ ID NO: 91)	<u>2</u>	<u>58889</u>	<u>18</u>	42683	<u>178</u>	<u>52845</u>
<u>CLTA1-1-1</u>	1 AGTCCTCAaCTCCCTCAAGCAGG (SEQ ID NO: 92)	<u>1</u>	39804	<u>9</u>	29000	<u>37</u>	40588
CLTA1-2-1	2 AGCCCTCATtTCCCTCAAGCAGG (SEQ ID NO: 93)	0	16276	0	15032	0	18277
<u>CLTA1-2-2</u>	2 ACTCCTCATCCCCCTCAAGCCGG (SEQ ID NO: 94)	<u>3</u>	21267	<u>1</u>	20042	<u>33</u>	22579
CLTA1-2-3	2 AGTCaTCATCTCCCTCAAGCAGa (SEQ ID NO: 95)	0	0	0	0	0	0
CLTA1-3-1	3 cGTCCTCcTCTCCCcCAAGCAGG (SEQ ID NO: 96)	2	53901	0	42194	0	52205
CLTA1-3-2	3 tGTCCTCtTCTCCCTCAAGCAGa (SEQ ID NO: 97)	0	14890	0	14231	0	15937
CLTA1-4-1	4 AagCtTCATCTCtCTCAAGCTGG (SEQ ID NO: 98)	0	49579	2	31413	o	41234
CLTA1-4-2	4 AGTaCTCtTtTCCCTCAgGCTGG (SEQ ID NO: 99)	2	30013	1	23470	4	26999
CLTA1-4-3	4 AGTCtTaAatTCCCTCAAGCAGG (SEQ ID NO: 100)	2	63792	0	52321	1	73007
CLTA1-4-4	4 AGTGCTCATCTaCCagAAGCTGG (SEQ ID NO: 101)	1	12585	0	11339	0	12066
CLTA1-4-5	4 ccTCCTCATCTCCCTgcAGCAGG (SEQ ID NO: 102)	4	30568	1	23810	0	27870
CLTA1-4-6	4 ctaCaTCATCTCCCTCAAGCTGG (SEQ ID NO: 103)	0	13200	1	12886	2	12843
CLTA1-4-7	4 gGTCCTCATCTCCCTaAAaCAGa (SEQ ID NO: 104)	1	8697	3	8188	0	8783
CLTA1-4-8	4 tGTCCTCATCggCCTCAgGCAGG (SEQ ID NO: 105)	0	13169	0	8805	2	12830
CLTA1-5-1	5 AGaCacCATCTCCCTtgAGCTGG (SEQ ID NO: 106)	0	46109	1	32515	2	35567
CLTA1-5-2	5 AGgCaTCATCTaCaTCAAGtTGG (SEQ ID NO: 107)	0	41280	0	28896	0	35152
CLTA1-5-3	5 AGTaaTCActTCCaTCAAGCCGG (SEQ ID NO: 108)	0	0	0	0	0	0
CLTA1-5-4	5 tccCCTCAcCTCCCTaAAGCAGG (SEQ ID NO: 109)	2	24169	5	17512	1	23483
CLTA1-5-5	5 tGTCtTtATtTCCCTCtAGCTGG (SEQ ID NO: 110)	0	11527	0	10481	1	11027
CLTA1-6-1	6 AGTCCTCATCTCCCTCAAGCAGG (SEQ ID NO: 111)	0	6537	0	5654	0	6741

TABLE 4

		T.	ABLE 4				
		no se	qRNA	v1.0	sqRNA	v2.1	sqRNA
	m sequence	modified sequences	total sequences	modified sequences	total sequences	modified sequences	total sequences
CLTA4-0-1	O GCAGATGTAGTGTTTCCACAGGG (SEQ ID NO: 112)	<u>6</u>	<u>29191</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>18640</u>	14970	19661
<u>CLTA4-3-1</u>	<pre> <u>3 aCAtATGTAGTaTTTCCACAGGG</u> (SEQ ID NO: 113)</pre>	<u>2</u>	<u>34165</u>	<u>11</u>	20018	<u>3874</u>	<u>16082</u>
CLTA4-3-2	3 GCAtATGTAGTGTTTCCAaATGt (SEQ ID NO: 114)	3	17923	0	11688	2	13880
<u>CLTA4-3-3</u>	$\frac{3}{\text{(SEQ ID NO: 115)}}$	<u>o</u>	<u>16559</u>	<u>o</u>	12007	<u>52</u>	11082
CLTA4-3-4	3 GCAGtTtTAGTGTTTTtCACAGGG (SEQ ID NO: 116)	0	21722	0	12831	0	15726
CLTA4-3-5	3 GCAGAgtTAGTGTTTCCACACaG (SEQ ID NO: 117)	1	21222	2	13555	3	16425
CLTA4-3-6	3 GCAGATGgAGgGTTTtCACAGGG (SEQ ID NO: 118)	3	20342	3	12804	3	14068
CLTA4-3-7	3 GgAaATtTAGTGTTTCCACAGGG (SEQ ID NO: 119)	2	38894	3	24017	1	29347
CLTA4-4-1	4 aaAGAaGTAGTaTTTCCACATGG (SEQ ID NO: 120)	0	0	0	0	0	0
CLTA4-4-2	4 aaAGATGTAGTcaTTCCACAAGG (SEQ ID NO: 121)	1	27326	0	17365	1	18941
CLTA4-4-3	4 aaAtATGTAGTcTTTCCACAGGG (SEQ ID NO: 122)	2	46232	3	32264	0	32638
CLTA4-4-4	4 at AGATGTAGTGTTTCCAaAGGa (SEQ ID NO: 123)	9	27821	1	16223	8	15388
CLTA4-4-5	4 cCAGAGGTAGTGcTcCCACAGGG (SEQ ID NO: 124)	1	20979	1	15674	1	15086
CLTA4-4-6	4 cCAGATGTgagGTTTCCACAAGG (SEQ ID NO: 125)	4	22021	0	15691	1	14253
CLTA4-4-7	4 ctAcATGTAGTGTTTCCAtATGG (SEQ ID NO: 126)	2	35942	0	23076	1	11867
<u>CLTA4-4-8</u>	$\frac{\underline{4}}{(\mathtt{SEQ}\ \mathtt{ID}\ \mathtt{NO:}\ \mathtt{127})}$	<u>1</u>	10692	<u>1</u>	<u>7609</u>	<u>59</u>	8077
CLTA4-4-9	4 GaAaATGgAGTGTTTaCACATGG (SEQ ID NO: 128)	0	34616	0	22302	1	24671
CLTA4-4-10	4 GCAaATGaAGTGTcaCCACAAGG (SEQ ID NO: 129)	1	25210	0	16187	0	16974
CLTA4-4-11	4 GCAaATGTAtTaTTTCCACtAGG (SEQ ID NO: 130)	0	34144	1	24770	0	22547
CLTA4-4-12	4 GCAGATGTAGCtTTTgtACATGG (SEQ ID NO: 131)	0	14254	0	9616	0	9994
CLTA4-4-13	4 GCAGcTtaAGTGTTTtCACATGG (SEQ ID NO: 132)	8	39466	1	7609	5	16525
CLTA4-4-14	4 ttAcATGTAGTGTTTTaCACACGG (SEQ ID NO: 133)	0	0	0	22302	0	0
CLTA4-5-1	5 GaAGAgGaAGTGTTTgCcCAGGG (SEQ ID NO: 134)	1	27616	1	16319	1	16140
CLTA4-5-2	5 GaAGATGTgGaGTTgaCACATGG (SEQ ID NO: 135)	1	22533	0	14292	0	15013
CLTA4-5-3	5 GCAGAaGTAcTGTTgttACAAGG (SEQ ID NO: 136)	1	44243	1	29391	1	29734

TABLE 4-continued

		no so	qRNA	v1.0	sqRNA	v2.1 sqRNA	
	m sequence	modified sequences	total sequences	modified sequences	total sequences	modified sequences	total sequences
CLTA4-5-4	5 GCAGATGTgGaaTTaCaACAGGG (SEQ ID NO: 137)	0	27321	0	13640	0	14680
CLTA4-5-5	5 GCAGtcaTAGTGTaTaCACATGG (SEQ ID NO: 138)	1	26538	0	18449	1	20559
CLTA4-5-6	5 taAGATGTAGTaTTTCCAaAAGt (SEQ ID NO: 139)	1	15145	1	8905	0	7911
CLTA4-6-1	6 GCAGCTGgcaTtTcTCCACACGG (SEQ ID NO: 140)	0	2	0	0	0	0
CLTA4-6-2	6 GGAGATCTGATGGTTCtACAAGG (SEQ ID NO: 141)	2	27797	0	19450	2	21709
CLTA4-6-3	6 taAaATGcAGTGTaTCCAtATGG (SEQ ID NO: 142)	4	27551	0	18424	0	18783
CLTA4-7-1	7 GCcagaaTAGTtTTTCaACAAGG (SEQ ID NO: 143)	0	20942	0	13137	1	13792
CLTA4-7-2	8 ttgtATtTAGaGaTTgCACAAGG (SEQ ID NO: 144)	0	28470	0	18104	0	20416

TABLE 5 TABLE 5-continued

Off-target site	Human genome coordinates	30	Off-target site	Human genome coordinates
CLTA1-0-1	9(+): 36,211,732-36,211,754	30 _	CLTA4-3-6	4(-): 155,252,699-155,252,721
	12(+): 7,759,893-7,759,915		CLTA4-3-7	18(+): 39,209,441-39,209,463
CLTA1-1-1	8(-): 15,546,437-15,546,459		CLTA4-4-1	17(-): 36,785,650-36,785,672
CLTA1-2-1	3(-): 54,223,111-54,223,133		CLTA4-4-2	1(-): 241,537,119-241,537,141
CLTA1-2-2	15(+): 89,388,670-89,388,692		CLTA4-4-3	8(-): 120,432,103-120,432,125
CLTA1-2-3	5(+): 88716920-88,716,942	35	CLTA4-4-4	6(-): 106,204,600-106,204,622
CLTA1-3-1	21(+): 27,972,462-27,972,484		CLTA4-4-5	8(+): 102,527,804-102,527,826
CLTA1-3-2	4(-): 17,179,924-17,179,946		CLTA4-4-6	8(-): 94,685,538-94,685,560
CLTA1-4-1	1(+): 147,288,742-147,288,764		CLTA4-4-7	2(+): 35,820,054-35,820,076
CLTA1-4-2	10(+): 97,544,444-97,544,466		CLTA4-4-8	3(-): 36,590,352-36,590,374
CLTA1-4-3	2(-): 161,873,870-161,873,892		CLTA4-4-9	12(+): 100,915,498-100,915,520
CLTA1-4-4	1(+): 196,172,702-196,172,724	40	CLTA4-4-10	21(+): 33,557,705-33,557,727
CLTA1-4-5	13(+): 56,574,636-56,574,658	40	CLTA4-4-11	8(+): 10,764,183-10,764,205
CLTA1-4-6	2(+): 241,357,827-241,357,849		CLTA4-4-12	19(+): 37,811,645-37,811,667
CLTA1-4-7	3(+): 121,248,627-121,248,649		CLTA4-4-13	13(-): 26,832,673-26,832,695
CLTA1-4-8	12(+): 132,937,319-132,937,341		CLTA4-4-14	6(+): 19,349,572-19,349,594
CLTA1-5-1	9(-): 80,930,919-80,930,941		CLTA4-5-1	11(-): 502,300-502,322
CLTA1-5-2	2(+): 140,901,875-14,0901,897		CLTA4-5-2	8(-): 28,389,683-28,389,705
CLTA1-5-3	3(+): 45,016,841-45,016,863	45	CLTA4-5-3	2(-): 118,557,405-118,557,427
CLTA1-5-4	X(+): 40,775,684-40,775,706		CLTA4-5-4	2(-): 103,248,360-103,248,382
CLTA1-5-5	2(-): 185,151,622-185,151,644		CLTA4-5-5	21(-): 42,929,085-42,929,107
CLTA1-6-1	X(+): 150,655,097-150,655,119		CLTA4-5-6	13(-): 83,097,278-83,097,300
CLTA4-0-1	9(-): 36,211,779-36,211,801		CLTA4-6-1	2(+): 43,078,423-43,078,445
CLTA4-3-1	12(-): 50,679,419-50,679,441		CLTA4-6-2	7(-): 11,909,384-11,909,406
CLTA4-3-2	X(-): 143,939,483-143,939,505	50	CLTA4-6-3	5(-): 69,775,482-69,775,504
CLTA4-3-3	11(-): 47,492,611-47,492,633		CLTA4-7-1	16(+): 30,454,945-30,454,967
CLTA4-3-4	3(-): 162,523,715-162,523,737		CLTA4-7-2	9(-): 77,211,328-77,211,350
CLTA4-3-5	11(+): 30,592,975-30,592,997	_		

TABLE 6

number of				vitro chment	modific in H	ation fr EK293T c		
	mutations	sequence	gene	v1.0	v2.1	no sgRNA	v1.0	v2.1
<u>CLTA1-0-1</u>	0	AGTCCTCATCTCCCTCAAGCAGG (SEQ ID NO: 145)	<u>CLTA</u>	41.4	23.3	0.003%	0.042%	0.337%
<u>CLTA1-1-1</u>	1	AGTCCTCAaCTCCCTCAAGCAGG (SEQ ID NO: 146)	TUSC3	<u>25.9</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>0.003</u> %	0.031%	0.091%

75

TABLE	6-continued

	number of				vitro chment		ation fi EK293T (requency cells
	mutations	sequence	gene	v1.0	v2.1	no sgRNA	v1.0	v2.1
CLTA1-2-1	2	AGcCCTCATtTCCCTCAAGCAGG (SEQ ID NO: 147)	CACNA2D3	15.4	26.2	0%	0%	0%
<u>CLTA1-2-2</u>	2	Actcctcatccccctcaagccgg (SEQ ID NO: 148)	ACAN	29.2	18.8	0.014%	<u>0.005%</u>	0.146%
CLTA1-2-3	2	AGTCaTCATCTCCCTCAAGCAGa (SEQ ID NO: 149)		0.06	1.27	n.t.	n.t.	n.t.
CLTA1-3-1	3	cGTCCTCcTCTCCccCAAGCAGG (SEQ ID NO: 150)		0	2.07	0.004%	0%	0%
CLTA1-3-2	3	tGTCCTCtTCTCCCTCAAGCAGa (SEQ ID NO: 151)	BC029598	0	1.47	0%	0%	0%
CLTA1-4-1	4	AagCtTCATCTCtCTCAAGCTGG (SEQ ID NO: 152)				0%	0.006%	0%
CLTA1-4-2	4	AGTaCTCtTtTCCCTCAgGCTGG (SEQ ID NO: 153)	ENTPD1			0.007%	0.004%	0.015%
CLTA1-4-3	4	AGTCtTaAatTCCCTCAAGCAGG (SEQ ID NO: 154)				0.003%	0%	0.001%
CLTA1-4-4	4	AGTgCTCATCTaCCagAAGCTGG (SEQ ID NO: 155)				0.008%	0%	0%
CLTA1-4-5	4	ccTCCTCATCTCCCTgcAGCAGG (SEQ ID NO: 156)				0.013%	0.004%	0%
CLTA1-4-6	4	ctaCaTCATCTCCCTCAAGCTGG (SEQ ID NO: 157)				0%	0.008%	0.016%
CLTA1-4-7	4	gGTCCTCATCTCCCTaAAaCAGa (SEQ ID NO: 158)	POLQ (coding)			0.011%	0.037%	0%
CLTA1-4-8	4	tGTCCTCATCggCCTCAgGCAGG (SEQ ID NO: 159)				0%	0%	0.016%
CLTA1-5-1	5	AGaCacCATCTCCCTtgAGCTGG (SEQ ID NO: 160)	PSAT1			0%	0.003%	0.006%
CLTA1-5-2	5	AGgCaTCATCTaCaTCAAGtTGG (SEQ ID NO: 161)				0%	0%	0%
CLTA1-5-3	5	AGTaaTCActTCCaTCAAGCCGG (SEQ ID NO: 162)	ZDHHC3, EXOSC7			n.t.	n.t.	n.t.
CLTA1-5-4	5	tccCCTCAcCTCCCTaAAGCAGG (SEQ ID NO: 163)				0.008%	0.029%	0.004%
CLTA1-5-5	5	tGTCtTtATtTCCCTCtAGCTGG (SEQ ID NO: 164)				0%	0%	0.009%
CLTA1-6-1	6	AGTCCTCATCTCCCTCAAGCAGG (SEQ ID NO: 165)				0%	0%	0%

TABLE 7

	# of sequences						
sequence	no	sgRNA	v1.0	sgRNA	v2.1	sgRNA	
CLTA1-0-1							
ref AGTCCTCATCTCCCTCAAGCAGG (SEQ ID NO: 166)	58	3,887	42,	665	52,	667	
AGTCCTCATCTCCCTCAAAGCAGG (SEQ ID NO: 167)		0		0		66	
NO: 167) AGTCCTCATCTCCCTC-AGCAGG (SEQ ID NO: 168)		0		2		28	

TABLE 7-continued

TABLE 7-co	ntinu	led				
			# of	sequen	ces	
sequence	no se	JRNA	v1.0	sgRNA	v2.1	sgRN
AGTCCTCAT		0		0		13
AGTCCTCATCTCCCTCA <u>T</u> AGCAGG (SEQ ID NO: 169)		0		0		11
AGTCCTCATAGCAGG (SEQ ID		0		0		9
NO: 170) AGTCCTCATCTAGCAGG (SEQ ID		0		0		8
NO: 171)						
AGTCCTCAAGCAGG (SEQ ID NO: 172)		0		0		6
AGTCCTCATCTCCCTCAAAGGCAGTGTTTGTT ACTTGAGTTTGTC AGCAGG (SEQ ID NO: 173)		0		0		4
AGTCCTCATCTCCCTCA <u>TT</u> AGCAGG (SEQ ID		0		0		4
NO: 174) AGTCCTCATCTCCCTCA GGCTTGTTTACAGC		0		0		3
TCACCTTTGAATTTGCACAAGCGTGCA		Ů		Ü		
G (SEQ ID NO: 175) AGTCCTCATCTCCCT-AGCAGG (SEQ ID		0		11		0
NO: 176)						
AGTCCTCATCCCTC-AAGCAGG (SEQ ID NO: 177)		0		3		0
AGTCCTCATCTCCCT-AAGCAGG (SEQ ID		1		2		0
NO: 178) other		1		0		26
modified total		2		18		178
modified total		4	(0.0)42%)	(0.	34%)
CLTA1-1	L-1					
		202	20	001	4.0	EE1
∍fAGTCCTCATCTCCCTCAAGCAGG (SEQ ID NO: 179)	39,8	03	40,	991	40	, 551
AGTCCTCAaCTCCCTCA <u>A</u> AGCAGG (SEQ ID NO: 180)		0		4		13
AGTCCTCAaCTCCCTCA (SEQ ID		0		0		12
NO: 181) AGTCCTCAaCTCCCTC-AGCAGG (SEQ ID		0		2		4
NO: 182)						
AGTCCTCAaCTCCCTCAAGAAAGGTGTTGAAAA TCAGAAAGAGAGAAACAAGCAGG (SEQ ID		0		0		3
NO: 183) AGTCCTCAaCTCCCTCAATCTACGGTCCATTCC		0		0		2
CGTTTCCACTCACCTTGCGCCGCAGCAGG		Ü		U		2
(SEQ ID NO: 184) AGTCCTCAaCTCCCT-AAGCAGG (SEQ ID		0		3		1
NO: 185)						
AGTCCTCAaCTCCCTCAACCAACTTTAACATCC TGCTGGTTCTGTCATTAATAAGTTGAAAGCAGG		0		0		1
(SEQ ID NO: 186)		_		•		-
AGTCCTCAaCTCCCTCA <u>CAGCAAATAAAAAAGT</u> TGTTTATGCATATTCAGATAAGCAAAGCAGG		0		0		1
(SEQ ID NO: 187) AGTCCTCAaCTCCC-AAGCAGG (SEQ ID		1		0		0
NO: 188)						
modified total		1		9		37
			(0.0	31%)	(0.	091%)
CLTA1-2	2-2					
ef AcTCCTCATCcCCCTCAAGCCGG (SEQ ID	21,2	264	20.	041	22	, 546
NO: 189)	,-		,			
Actcctcatccccctca <u>a</u> Acccgg (seq id No: 190)		0		0		8
AcTCCTCATCcCCCTCA <u>C</u> AGCCGG (SEQ ID		0		0		7
NO: 191) AcTCCTCAGCCGG (SEQ ID		0		0		5
NO: 192)		0		0		2
AcTCCTCATCcCCCTCA AA AGCCGG (SEQ ID NO: 193)		J		J		4
Actcctcatccccctca <u>c</u> acccg (seq id No: 194)		0		0		2
AcTCCTCATCcCCCTCA <u>T</u> AGCCGG (SEQ ID		0		0		2
NO: 195) Actcctcatccccctca tcc ccgg (seg id		0		0		2
NO: 196)		-		•		2

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TABLE 7-continued

		# of sequen	ces
sequence	no sgRNA	v1.0 sgRNA	v2.1 sgRNA
ActCCTCATCcCAGCCGG (SEQ ID	0	0	2
NO: 197)			
AcTCCTCATCcCCCTA-AGCCGG (SEQ ID	3	1	1
NO: 198) ActCCtCAtCcCCCtCA At AGCCGG (SEQ ID	0	0	1
No: 199)	Ŭ	Ü	-
Actectacecectea <u>ca</u> ageegg (seq id	0	0	1
NO: 200)			
modified total	3	1	33
			(0.15%)

TABLE 8

		# of sequen	ces
sequence	control	v1.0 sgRNA	v2.1 sgRNA
CLTA4	1-0-1		
ref GCAGATGTAGTGTTTCCACAGGG	29,185	16,635	17,555
(SEQ ID NO: 201) GCAGATGTAGTGTTTC-ACAGGG	1	891	5,937
(SEQ ID NO: 202) GCAGATGTAGTGTTTCC <u>C</u> ACAGGG (SEQ ID NO: 203)	0	809	5,044
GCAGATGTAGTGCACAGGG (SEQ ID NO: 204)	0	14	400
GCAGATGTAGTGTTTCC-CAGGG (SEQ ID NO: 205)	0	19	269
GCAGATGTACACAGGG (SEQ ID NO: 206)	0	17	262
GCAGATGTAGTGTCACAGGG (SEQ ID NO: 207)	2	6	254
GCAGATGTAGTGTTCA-CAGGG (SEQ ID NO: 208)	0	21	229
GCAGATGTAGTGTTTC-CAGGG (SEQ ID NO: 209)	1	14	188
GCAGATGTAGTCACAGGG (SEQ ID NO: 210)	0	0	152
GCAGATGTAGGG (SEQ ID NO: 211)	0	6	129
other	2	208	2,106
modified total	6	2,005 (11%)	14,970 (76%)
CLTA	1-3-1		
ref aCAtATGTAGTaTTTCCACAGGG (SEQ ID NO: 212)	34,163	20,007	12,208
aCAtATGTAGTATTTCCCACAGGG (SEO ID NO: 213)	0	8	1779
aCAtATGTAGTATTTCA-CAGGG (SEQ ID NO: 214)	1	0	293
aCAtATGTAGTaTTTC-CAGGG (SEQ ID NO: 215)	1	0	227
aCAtATCACAGGG (SEQ ID NO: 216)	0	0	117
aCAGGG	0	0	96
aCAtCACAGGG (SEQ ID NO: 217)	0	0	78
aCAtATGTAGTCACAGGG (SEQ ID NO: 218)	0	0	77
aCAtATGTAGTaTTTCC (SEQ ID NO: 219)	0	0	76

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TABLE 8-continued

TABLE 0-0	COIIC IIIu	.cu							
		# of sequen	ces						
sequence	control	v1.0 sgRNA	v2.1 sgRNA						
aCAtATGTAGGG (SEQ ID NO: 220)	0	0	68						
aCAtATGTAGCACAGGG	0	0	64						
(SEQ ID NO: 221) 0 3 99 modified total 2 11 387 (0.055%) (24%) CLTA4-3-3 CETA4-3-3 CEGAGTGTAGTATTCCCACAGGG 16,559 12,007 11,03 (SEQ ID NO: 222) 0 0 3 (SEQ ID NO: 223) 0 0 0 (SEQ ID NO: 224) 0 0 0 (SEQ ID NO: 225) 0 0 0 CCAGATGTAGTATT-CCAACAGGG 0 0 0 (SEQ ID NO: 226) 0 0 0 CCAGATGTAGTATTCC-CAGGG (SEQ 0 0 0 ID NO: 227) 0 0 0 CCAGATGTAGTATTCC-CAGGG (SEQ 0 0 0 CCAGATGTAGTATTCC-ACAGGG 0 0 0 CCAGATGTAGTATTCC-ACAGGG 0 0 0 CCAGATGTAGTATTCC-ACAGGG 0 0	999								
modified total	2		3874 (24%)						
CLTA4-3-3									
refcCAGATGTAGTaTTcCCACAGGG (SEO ID NO: 222)	16,559	12,007	11,030						
cCAGATGTAGTaTTcCC C ACAGGG	0	0	35						
(SEQ ID NO: 224)			5						
(SEQ ID NO: 225)	-		3						
(SEQ ID NO: 226)		-	2						
ID NO: 227)	-		2						
ID NO: 228)			2						
cCAGATGTAGTaTTcC-ACAGGG	-	-	1						
modified total	0	0	52 (0.47%)						
CLTA	4-4-8								
ref ctAGATGaAGTGcTTCCACATGG (SEQ ID NO: 230)	10,691	7,608	8,018						
ctAGATGaAGTGcTTCC C ACATGG (SEQ ID NO: 231)	0	0	49						
ctAGATGaAGTGcTTC-ACATGG (SEQ ID NO: 232)	0	0	6						
ctAGATGaAGTG (SEQ ID NO: 233)	0	0	2						
ctAGATGaAGTGcTTCCAC AC ATGG (SEQ ID NO: 234)	0	0	1						
ctAGATGaAGTGcTTC-CATGG (SEQ ID NO: 235)	1	0	0						
ctAGATGaAGTGcTTCC-CATGG (SEQ ID NO: 236)	0	1	0						
modified total	1	1	59 (0.73%)						

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oligonucleotide name	oligonucleotide sequence (5'->3')
CLTA1 v2.1 template fwd	TAA TAC GAC TCA CTA TAG GAG TCC TCA TCT CCC TCA AGC GTT TTA GAG CTA TGC TG (SEQ ID NO: 237)
CLTA2 v2.1 template fwd	TAA TAC GAC TCA CTA TAG GCT CCC TCA AGC AGG CCC CGC GTT TTA GAG CTA TGC TG (SEQ ID NO: 238)
CLTA3 v2.1 template fwd	TAA TAC GAC TCA CTA TAG GTG TGA AGA GCT TCA CTG AGT GTT TTA GAG CTA TGC TG (SEQ ID NO: 239)
CLTA4 v2.1 template fwd	TAA TAC GAC TCA CTA TAG GGC AGA TGT AGT GTT TCC ACA GTT TTA GAG CTA TGC TG (SEQ ID NO: 240)
v2.1 template rev	GAT AAC GGA CTA GCC TTA TTT TAA CTT GCT ATG CTT TTC AGC ATA GCT CTA AAA C (SEQ ID NO: 241)
CLTA1 v1.0 template	CGG ACT AGC CIT AIT TTA ACT TGC TAI TTC TAG CTC TAA AAC GCT TGA GGG AGA TGA GGA CTC CTA TAG TGA GTC GTA TTA (SEQ ID NO: 242)
CLTA2 v1.0 template	CGG ACT AGC CIT AIT TTA ACT TGC TAT TTC TAG CTC TAA AAC GCG GGG CCT GCT TGA GGG AGC CTA TAG TGA GTC GTA TTA (SEQ ID NO: 243)
CLTA3 v1.0 template	CGG ACT AGC CIT AIT TTA ACT TGC TAI TTC TAG CTC TAA AAC ACT CAG TGA AGC TCT TCA CAC CTA TAG TGA GTC GTA TTA (SEQ ID NO: 244)
CLTA4 v1.0 template	CGG ACT AGC CTT ATT TTA ACT TGC TAT TTC TAG CTC TAA AAC TGT GGA AAC ACT ACA TCT GCC CTA TAG TGA GTC GTA TTA (SEQ ID NO: 245)
T7 promoter oligo	TAA TAC GAC TCA CTA TAG G (SEQ ID NO: 246)
CLTA1 lib	/5Phos/AAC ACA NNN NC*C* NG*C* T*T*G* A*G*G* G*A*G* A*T*G* A*G*G* A*C*T* NNN NAC CTG CCG AGA ACA CA (SEQ ID NO: 247)
CLTA2 lib	/5Phos/TCT TCT NNN NC*C* NG*C* G*G*G* G*C*C* T*G*C* T*T*G* A*G*G* G*A*G* NNN NAC CTG CCG AGT CTT CT (SEQ ID NO: 248)
CLTA3 lib	/5Phos/AGA GAA NNN NC*C* NA*C* T*C*A* G*T*G* A*A*G* C*T*C* T*T*C* A*C*A* NNN NAC CTG CCG AGA GAG AA (SEQ ID NO: 249)
CLTA4 lib	/5Phos/TTG TGT NNN NC*C* NT*G* T*G*G* A*A*A* C*A*C* T*A*C* A*T*C* T*G*C* NNN NAC CTG CCG AGT TGT GT (SEQ ID NO: 250)
CLTA1 site fwd	CTA GCA GTC CTC ATC TCC CTC AAG CAG GC (SEQ ID NO: 251)
CLTA1 site rev	AGC TGC CTG CTT GAG GGA GAT GAG GAC TG (SEQ ID NO: 252)
CLTA2 site fwd	CTA GTC TCC CTC AAG CAG GCC CCG CTG GT (SEQ ID NO: 253)
CLTA2 site rev	AGC TAC CAG CGG CGC CTG CTT GAG GGA GA (SEQ ID NO: 254)
CLTA3 site fwd	CTA GCT GTG AAG AGC TTC ACT GAG TAG GA (SEQ ID NO: 255)
CLTA3 site rev	AGC TIC CIA CIC AGI GAA GCI CII CAC AG (SEQ ID NO: 256)
CLTA4 site fwd	CTA GTG CAG ATG TAG TGT TTC CAC AGG GT (SEQ ID NO: 257)
CLTA4 site rev	AGC TAC CCT GTG GAA ACA CTA CAT CTG CA (SEQ ID NO: 258)
test fwd	GCG ACA CGG AAA TGT TGA ATA CTC AT (SEQ ID NO: 259)

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oligonucleotide name	oligonucleotide sequence (5'->3')
test rev	GGA GTC AGG CAA CTA TGG ATG AAC G (SEQ ID NO: 260)
off-target CLTA4-0 fwd	ACT GTG AAG AGC TTC ACT GAG TAG GAT TAA GAT ATT GCA GAT GTA GTG TTT CCA CAG GGT (SEQ ID NO: 261)
off-target CLTA4-1 fwd	ACT GTG AAG AGC TTC ACT GAG TAG GAT TAA GAT ATT GAA GAT GTA GTG TTT CCA CAG GGT (SEQ ID NO: 262)
off-target CLTA4-2a fwd	ACT GTG AAG AGC TTC ACT GAG TAG GAT TAA GAT ATT GAA GAT GTA GTG TTT CCA CTG GGT (SEQ ID NO: 263)
off-target CLTA4-2b fwd	ACT GTG AAG AGC TTC ACT GAG TAG GAT TAA GAT ATT GCA GAT GGA GGG TTT CCA CAG GGT (SEQ ID NO: 264)
off-target CLTA4-2c fwd	ACT GTG AAG AGC TTC ACT GAG TAG GAT TAA GAT ATT GCA GAT GTA GTG TTA CCA GAG GGT (SEQ ID NO: 265)
off-target CLTA4-3 fwd	ACT GTG AAG AGC TTC ACT GAG TAG GAT TAA GAT ATT GGG GAT GTA GTG TTT CCA CTG GGT (SEQ ID NO: 266)
off-target CLTA4-0 rev	TCC CTC AAG CAG GCC CCG CTG GTG CAC TGA AGA GCC ACC CTG TGG AAA CAC TAC ATC TGC (SEQ ID NO: 267)
off-target CLTA4-1 rev	TCC CTC AAG CAG GCC CCG CTG GTG CAC TGA AGA GCC ACC CTG TGG AAA CAC TAC ATC TTC (SEQ ID NO: 268)
off-target CLTA4-2a rev	TCC CTC AAG CAG GCC CCG CTG GTG CAC TGA AGA GCC ACC CAG TGG AAA CAC TAC ATC TTC (SEQ ID NO: 269)
off-target CLTA4-2b rev	TCC CTC AAG CAG GCC CCG CTG GTG CAC TGA AGA GCC ACC CTG TGG AAA CCC TCC ATC TGC (SEQ ID NO: 270)
off-target CLTA4-2c rev	TCC CTC AAG CAG GCC CCG CTG GTG CAC TGA AGA GCC ACC CTC TGG TAA CAC TAC ATC TGC (SEQ ID NO: 271)
off-target CLTA4-3 rev	TCC CTC AAG CAG GCC CCG CTG GTG CAC TGA AGA GCC ACC CAG TGG AAA CAC TAC ATC CCC (SEQ ID NO: 272)
adapter1(AACA)	AAT GAT ACG GCG ACC ACC GAG ATC TAC ACT CTT TCC CTA CAC GAC GCT CTT CCG ATC TAA CA (SEQ ID NO: 273)
adapter2(AACA)	TGT TAG ATC GGA AGA GCG TCG TGT AGG GAA AGA GTG TAG ATC TCG GTG G (SEQ ID NO: 274)
adapter1(TTCA)	AAT GAT ACG GCG ACC ACC GAG ATC TAC ACT CTT TCC CTA CAC GAC GCT CTT CCG ATC TTT CA (SEQ ID NO: 275)
adapter2(TTCA)	TGA AAG ATC GGA AGA GCG TCG TGT AGG GAA AGA GTG TAG ATC TCG GTG G (SEQ ID NO: 276)
adapter1	AAT GAT ACG GCG ACC ACC GAG ATC TAC ACT CTT TCC CTA CAC GAC GCT CTT CCG ATC T (SEQ ID NO: 277)
adapter2	AGA TCG GAA GAG CGT CGT GTA GGG AAA GAG TGT AGA TCT CGG TGG (SEQ ID NO: 278)
lib adapter1	GAC GGC ATA CGA GAT (SEQ ID NO: 279)
CLTA1 lib adapter2	AAC AAT CTC GTA TGC CGT CTT CTG CTT G (SEQ ID NO: 280)
CLTA2 lib adapter2	TCT TAT CTC GTA TGC CGT CTT CTG CTT G (SEQ ID NO: 281)
CLTA3 lib adapter2	AGA GAT CTC GTA TGC CGT CTT CTG CTT G (SEQ ID NO: 282)
CLTA4 lib adapter2	TTG TAT CTC GTA TGC CGT CTT CTG CTT G (SEQ ID NO: 283)
CLTAl sel PCR	CAA GCA GAA GAC GGC ATA CGA GAT TGT GTT CTC GGC AGG T (SEQ ID NO: 284)

continued	
9	
TABLE 9	

oligonucleotide name	oligonucleotide sequence (5'->3')
CLTA2 sel PCR	CAA GCA GAA GAC GGC ATA CGA GAT AGA AGA CTC GGC AGG T (SEQ ID NO: 285)
CLTA3 sel PCR	CAA GCA GAA GAC GGC ATA CGA GAT TTC TCT CTC GGC AGG T (SEQ ID NO: 286)
CLTA4 sel PCR	CAA GCA GAA GAC GGC ATA CGA GAT ACA CAC CAC AGG T (SEQ ID NO: 287)
PE2 short	AAT GAT ACG GCG ACC ACC GA (SEQ ID NO: 288)
CLTA1 lib seq PCR	AAT GAT ACG GCG ACC ACC GAG ATC TAC ACT CTT TCC CTA CAC GAC GCT CTT CCG ATC TNN NNA CCT ACC TGC CGA GAA CAC A (SEQ 1D NO: 289)
CLTA2 lib seq PCR	AAT GAT ACG GCG ACC ACC GAG ATC TAC ACT CTT TCC CTA CAC GAC GCT CTT CCG ATC INN NNA CCT ACC TGC CGA GTC TTC T (SEQ ID NO: 290)
CLTA3 lib seq PCR	AAT GAT ACG GCG ACC ACC GAG ATC TAC ACT CTT TCC CTA CAC GCT CTT CCG ATC TNN NNA CCT ACC TGC CGA GAG AGA A (SEQ ID NO: 291)
CLTA4 lib seq PCR	AAT GAT ACG GCG ACC ACC GAG ATC TAC ACT CTT TCC CTA CAC GAC GCT CTT CCG ATC TNN NNA CCT ACC TGC CGA GTT GTG T (SEQ 1D NO: 292)
lib fwd PCR	CAA GCA GAA GAC GGC ATA CGA GAT (SEQ ID NO: 293)
CLTA1-0-1 (Chr. 9) fwd	ACA CTC TTT CCC TAC ACG CTC TTC CGA TCT CAA GTC TAG CAA GCA GGC CA (SEQ ID NO: 294)
CLTA1-0-1 (Chr. 12) fwd	ACA CTC TTT CCC TAC ACG CTC TTC CGA TCT CAG GCA CTG AGT GGG AAA GT (SEQ ID NO: 295)
CLTA1-1-1 fwd	ACA CTC TTT CCC TAC ACG CTC TTC CGA TCT TAA CCC CAA GTC AGC AAG CA (SEQ ID NO: 296)
CLTA1-2-1 fwd	ACA CTC TIT CCC TAC ACG CTC TTC CGA TCT TTG CTG GTC AAT ACC CTG GC (SEQ ID NO: 297)
CLTA1-2-2 fwd	ACA CTC TIT CCC TAC ACG CTC TTC CGA TCT TGA GTA CCC CTG AAA TGG GC (SEQ ID NO: 298)
CLTA1-3-1 fwd	ACA CTC TTT CCC TAC ACG CTC TTC CGA TCT TCG CTA CCA ATC AGG GCT TT (SEQ ID NO: 299)
CLTA1-3-2 fwd	ACA CTC TIT CCC TAC ACG CTC TTC CGA TCT CCA TTG CCA CTT GTT TGC AT (SEQ ID NO: 300)
CLTA1-4-1 fwd	ACA CTC TTT CCC TAC ACG CTC TTC CGA TCT CCT ACC CCC ACA ACT TTG CT (SEQ ID NO: 301)
CLTA1-4-2 fwd	ACA CTC TTT CCC TAC ACG CTC TTC CGA TCT GTG TAC ATC CAG TGC ACC CA (SEQ ID NO: 302)
CLTA1-4-3 fwd	ACA CTC TTT CCC TAC ACG CTC TTC CGA TCT TCG GAA AGG ACT TTG AAT ACT TGT (SEQ ID NO: 303)
CLTA1-4-4 fwd	ACA CTC TTT CCC TAC ACG CTC TTC CGA TCT CGG CCC AAG ACC TCA TTC AC (SEQ ID NO: 304)
CLTA1-4-5 fwd	ACA CTC TIT CCC TAC ACG CTC TTC CGA TCT GTC CTC TCT GGG GCA GAA GT (SEQ ID NO: 305)
CLTA1-4-6 fwd	ACA CTC TIT CCC TAC ACG CTC TTC CGA TCT AGC TGA GTC ATG AGT TGT CTC C (SEQ ID NO: 306)
CLTA1-4-7 fwd	ACA CTC TIT CCC TAC ACG CTC TTC CGA TCT CTG CCA GCT TCT CAC ACC AT (SEQ ID NO: 307)
CLTA1-4-8 fwd	ACA CTC TTT CCC TAC ACG CTC TTC CGA TCT CTG AAG GAC AAA GGC GGG AA (SEQ ID NO: 308)

9-continued	
TABLE	

oligonucleotide name	oligonucleotide sequence (5'->3')
CLTA1-5-1 fwd	ACA CTC TIT CCC TAC ACG CTC TTC CGA TCT AAG GTG CTA AAG GCT CCA CG (SEQ ID NO: 309)
CLTA1-5-2 fwd	ACA CTC TTT CCC TAC ACG CTC TTC CGA TCT GAC CAT TGG TGA GCC CAG AG (SEQ ID NO: 310)
CLTA1-5-3 fwd	ACA CTC TTT CCC TAC ACG ACG CTC TTC CGA TCT TTT TTC GGG CAA CTG CTC AC (SEQ ID NO: 311)
CLTA1-5-4 fwd	ACA CTC TTT CCC TAC ACG ACG CTC TTC CGA TCT GCA AGC CTT CTC TCA GA (SEQ ID NO: 312)
CLTA1-5-5 fwd	ACA CTC TTT CCC TAC ACG CTC TTC CGA TCT ACA CAA ACT TCC CTG AGA CCC (SEQ ID NO: 313)
CLTA1-6-1 fwd	ACA CTC TTT CCC TAC ACG CTC TTC CGA TCT TGA GTT AGC CCT GCT GTT CA (SEQ ID NO: 314)
CLTA4-0-1 fwd	ACA CTC TTT CCC TAC ACG CTC TTC CGA TCT TGA AGA GCT TCA CTG AGT AGG A (SEQ ID NO: 315)
CLTA4-3-1 fwd	ACA CTC TTT CCC TAC ACG ACG CTC TTC CGA TCT TCC CCT TAC AGC CAA TTT CGT (SEQ ID NO: 316)
CLTA4-3-2 fwd	ACA CTC TTT CCC TAC ACG CTC TTC CGA TCT TGC TGA TGA AAT GCA ATT AAG AGG T (SEQ ID NO: 317)
CLTA4-3-3 fwd	ACA CTC TTT CCC TAC ACG CTC TTC CGA TCT GGT CCC TGC AAG CCA GTA TG (SEQ ID NO: 318)
CLTA4-3-4 fwd	ACA CTC TTT CCC TAC ACG CTC TTC CGA TCT ATC AAA GCC TTG TAT CAC AGT T (SEQ ID NO: 319)
CLTA4-3-5 fwd	ACA CTC TTT CCC TAC ACG CTC TTC CGA TCT CCC AAA TAA TGC AGG AGC CAA (SEQ ID NO: 320)
CLTA4-3-6 fwd	ACA CTC TTT CCC TAC ACG CTC TTC CGA TCT CTG CCT TTA GTG GGA CAG ACT T (SEQ ID NO: 321)
CLTA4-3-7 fwd	ACA CTC TTT CCC TAC ACG CTC TTC CGA TCT AGT AAC CCT AGT AGC CCT CCA (SEQ ID NO: 322)
CLTA4-4-1 fwd	ACA CTC TTT CCC TAC ACG CTC TTC CGA TCT CAT TGC AGT GAG CCG AGA TTG (SEQ ID NO: 323)
CLTA4-4-2 fwd	ACA CTC TTT CCC TAC ACG CTC TTC CGA TCT TGG CAA AGT TCA CTT CCA TGT (SEQ ID NO: 324)
CLTA4-4-3 fwd	ACA CTC TTT CCC TAC ACG CTC TTC CGA TCT TGC TCT GTG ATG TCT GCC AC (SEQ ID NO: 325)
CLTA4-4-4 fwd	ACA CTC TTT CCC TAC ACG CTC TTC CGA TCT TGT GTA GGA TTG TGA ACC AGC A (SEQ ID NO: 326)
CLTA4-4-5 fwd	ACA CTC TTT CCC TAC ACG CTC TTC CGA TCT TCC CAG CCC AGC ATT TTT CT (SEQ ID NO: 327)
CLTA4-4-6 fwd	ACA CTC TTT CCC TAC ACG CTC TTC CGA TCT AGG TTG CTT TGT GCA CAG TC (SEQ ID NO: 328)
CLTA4-4-7 fwd	ACA CTC TTT CCC TAC ACG CTC TTC CGA TCT CCT GGC TTG GGA TGT TGG AA (SEQ ID NO: 329)
CLTA4-4-8 fwd	ACA CTC TTT CCC TAC ACG CTC TTC CGA TCT TTG CCC AAG GTC ATA CTG CT (SEQ ID NO: 330)
CLTA4-4-9 fwd	ACA CTC TTT CCC TAC ACG CTC TTC CGA TCT ACC CAC TAG GTA GCC ATA ATC CA (SEQ ID NO: 331)
CLTA4-4-10 fwd	ACA CTC TTT CCC TAC ACG CTC TTC CGA TCT CGG TCA TGT CGC TTG GAA GA (SEQ ID NO: 332)
CLTA4-4-11 fwd	ACA CTC TTT CCC TAC ACG CTC TTC CGA TCT TTG GCC CAT ATT GCT TTA TGC TG (SEQ ID NO: 333)

TABLE 9-continued

oligonucleotide name	oligonucleotide sequence (5'->3')
CLTA4-4-12 fwd	ACA CTC TIT CCC TAC ACG CTC TTC CGA TCT ATT AGG GGT TGG CTG CAT GA (SEQ ID NO: 334)
CLTA4-4-13 fwd	ACA CTC TIT CCC TAC ACG CTC TTC CGA TCT CCA AGA CGT GTT GCA TGC TG (SEQ ID NO: 335)
CLTA4-4-14 fwd	ACA CTC TTT CCC TAC ACG CTC TTC CGA TCT TGG GAG GTG ATA AAT TCC CTA AAT (SEQ ID NO: 336)
CLTA4-5-1 fwd	ACA CTC TIT CCC TAC ACG CTC TTC CGA TCT CCA GAG ACA AAG GTG GGG AG (SEQ ID NO: 337)
CLTA4-5-2 fwd	ACA CTC TTT CCC TAC ACG CTC TTC CGA TCT TCA TAC AGA AGA GCA AAG TAC CA (SEQ ID NO: 338)
CLTA4-5-3 fwd	ACA CTC TTT CCC TAC ACG CTC TTC CGA TCT CAA AGA GGG GTA TCG GGA GC (SEQ ID NO: 339)
CLTA4-5-4 fwd	ACA CTC TTT CCC TAC ACG CTC TTC CGA TCT AAA TGG AAG AAC CAA GTA GAT GAA (SEQ ID NO: 340)
CLTA4-5-5 fwd	ACA CTC TTT CCC TAC ACG CTC TTC CGA TCT TTT TGG TTG ACA GAT GGC CAC A (SEQ ID NO: 341)
CLTA4-5-6 fwd	ACA CTC TTT CCC TAC ACG CTC TTC CGA TCT TCT TAC TTG TGT GAT TTT AGA ACA A (SEQ ID NO: 342)
CLTA4-6-1 fwd	ACA CTC TTT CCC TAC ACG CTC TTC CGA TCT GAT GGT TCA TGC AGA GGG CT (SEQ ID NO: 343)
CLTA4-6-2 fwd	ACA CTC TTT CCC TAC ACG CTC TTC CGA TCT GCT GGT CTT TCC TGA GCT GT (SEQ ID NO: 344)
CLTA4-6-3 fwd	ACA CTC TTT CCC TAC ACG CTC TTC CGA TCT CTC CAT CAG ATA CCT GTA CCC A (SEQ ID NO: 345)
CLTA4-7-1 fwd	ACA CTC TTT CCC TAC ACG CTC TTC CGA TCT GGG AAA ACA CTC TCT CTC TGC T (SEQ ID NO: 346)
CLTA4-7-2 fwd	ACA CTC TTT CCC TAC ACG CTC TTC CGA TCT GGA GGC CAC GAC ACA CAA TA (SEQ ID NO: 347)
CLTA1-0-1 (Chr. 9) rev	GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG ATCT CAC AGG GTG GCT CTT CAG TG (SEQ ID NO: 348)
CLTA1-0-1 (Chr. 12) rev	GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG ATCT TGC ACA TGT TTC CAC AGG GT (SEQ ID NO: 349)
CLTA1-1-1 rev	GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG ATCT AGT GTT TCC AGG AGC GGT TT (SEQ ID NO: 350)
CLTA1-2-1 rev	GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG ATCT AAG CCT CAG GCA CAA CTC TG (SEQ ID NO: 351)
CLTA1-2-2 rev	GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG ATCT TAG GGG AGG GGC AAA GAC A (SEQ ID NO: 352)
CLTA1-3-1 rev	GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG ATCT GGG AAC AGT GGT ATG CTG GT (SEQ ID NO: 353)
CLTA1-3-2 rev	GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG ATCT AGT GTG GAC ACT GAC AAG GAA (SEQ ID NO: 354)
CLTA1-4-1 rev	GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG ATCT TCA CTG CCT GGG TGC TTT AG (SEQ ID NO: 355)
CLTA1-4-2 rev	GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG ATCT TAC CCC AGC CTC CAG CTT TA (SEQ ID NO: 356)
CLTA1-4-3 rev	GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG ATCT TGA CTA CTG GGG AGC GAT GA (SEQ ID NO: 357)
CLTA1-4-4 rev	GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG ATCT AGG CTG TTA TGC AGG AAA GGA A (SEQ ID NO: 358)
CLTA1-4-5 rev	GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG ATCT GCG GTT GAG GTG GAT GGA AG (SEQ ID NO: 359)

9-continued	
TABLE	

oligonucleotide name	oligonucleotide sequence (5'->3')
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CLTA1-4-7 rev	GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG ATCT AGA AAA AGC TTC CCC AGA AAG GA (SEQ ID NO: 361)
CLTA1-4-8 rev	GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG ATCT CTG CAC CAA CCT CTA CGT CC (SEQ ID NO: 362)
CLTA1-5-1 rev	GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG ATCT CTG GAG AGG GCA TAG TTG GC (SEQ ID NO: 363)
CLTA1-5-2 rev	GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG ATCT TGG AAG GCT CTT TGT GGG TT (SEQ ID NO: 364)
CLTA1-5-3 rev	GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG ATCT TTC CTA GCG GGA ACT GGA AA (SEQ ID NO: 365)
CLTA1-5-4 rev	GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG ATCT AGG CTA ATG GGG TAG GGG AT (SEQ ID NO: 366)
CLTA1-5-5 rev	GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG ATCT TGT CCA TGT TGG CTG AGG TG (SEQ ID NO: 367)
CLTA1-6-1 rev	GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG ATCT CAG GCC AAC CTT GAC AAC TT (SEQ ID NO: 368)
CLTA4-0-1 rev	GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG ATCT AGC AGG CCA AAG ATG TCT CC (SEQ ID NO: 369)
CLTA4-3-1 rev	GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG ATCT TCT GCT CTT GAG GTT ATT TGT CC (SEQ ID NO: 370)
CLTA4-3-2 rev	GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG ATCT GGG ACC AAT TTG CTA CTC ATG G (SEQ ID NO: 371)
CLTA4-3-3 rev	GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG ATCT TGG AGG CTG TAA ACG TCC TG (SEQ ID NO: 372)
CLTA4-3-4 rev	GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG ATCT TGC TAT GAT TTG CTG AAT TAC TCC T (SEQ ID NO: 373)
CLTA4-3-5 rev	GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG ATCT GCA ATT TTG CAG ACC ACC ATC (SEQ ID NO: 374)
CLTA4-3-6 rev	GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG ATCT GGC AGC TTG CAA CCT TCT TG (SEQ ID NO: 375)
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CLTA4-4-1 rev	GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG ATCT ACT TGA GGG GGA AAA AGT TTC TTA (SEQ ID NO: 377)
CLTA4-4-2 rev	GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG ATCT TGG TCC CTG TCT GTC ATT GG (SEQ ID NO: 378)
CLTA4-4-3 rev	GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG ATCT AAG CGA GTG ACT GTC TGG GA (SEQ ID NO: 379)
CLTA4-4-4 rev	GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG ATCT CAT GGG TGG GAC ACG TAG TT (SEQ ID NO: 380)
CLTA4-4-5 rev	GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG ATCT GGC TTT CCT GGA CAC CCT ATC (SEQ ID NO: 381)
CLTA4-4-6 rev	GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG ATCT AGA GCG AGG GAG CGA TGT A (SEQ ID NO: 382)
CLTA4-4-7 rev	GTG ACT GGA GTI CAG ACG IGT GCT CTI CCG ATCT TTG TGG ACC ACT GCT TAG TGC (SEQ ID NO: 383)
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TABLE 9-continued

oligonucleotide name	oligonucleotide sequence (5'->3')
CLTA4-4-9 rev	GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG ATCT GGT CAG CAC TCC TCA GCT TT (SEQ ID NO: 385)
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CLTA4-4-11 rev	GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG ATCT CCC AGC CTC TTT GAC CCT TC (SEQ ID NO: 387)
CLTA4-4-12 rev	GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG ATCT CCC ACA CCA GGC TGT AAG G (SEQ ID NO: 388)
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CLTA4-5-3 rev	GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG ATCT CCA GCT CCA GCA ATC CAT GA (SEQ ID NO: 393)
CLTA4-5-4 rev	GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG ATCT TTT GGG AAA GAT AGC CCT GGA (SEQ ID NO: 394)
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PE1-barcode2	CAA GCA GAA GAC GGC ATA CGA GAT TTT CAC CGG TGA CTG GAG TTC AGA CGT GTG CT (SEQ ID NO: 403)
PE1-barcode3	CAA GCA GAA GAC GGC ATA CGA GAT CCA CTC ATG TGA CTG GAG TTC AGA CGT GTG CT (SEQ ID NO: 404)
PE1-barcode4	CAA GCA GAA GAC GGC ATA CGA GAT TAC GTA CGG TGA CTG GAG TTC AGA CGT GTG CT (SEQ ID NO: 405)
PE1-barcode5	CAA GCA GAA GAC GGC ATA CGA GAT CGA AAC TCG TGA CTG GAG TTC AGA CGT GTG CT (SEQ ID NO: 406)

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oligonucleotide name	oligonucleotide sequence (5'->3')
PE1-barcode6	CAA GCA GAA GAC GGC ATA CGA GAT ATC AGT ATG TGA CTG GAG TTC AGA CGT GTG CT (SEQ ID NO: 407)
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PE2-barcode2	AAT GAT ACG GCG ACC ACC GAG ATC TAC ACT CCG GAG AAC ACT CTT TCC CTA CAC GAC (SEQ ID NO: 409)
PE2-barcode3	AAT GAT ACG GCG ACC ACC GAG ATC TAC ACC GCT CAT TAC ACT CTT TCC CTA CAC GAC (SEQ ID NO: 410)

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 - All publications, patents and sequence database entries mentioned herein, including those items listed above, are hereby incorporated by reference in their entirety as if each individual publication or patent was specifically and individually indicated to be incorporated by reference. In case of conflict, the present application, including any definitions herein, will control.

SEQUENCE LISTING

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<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic Polypeptide

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Lys 65	Arg	Thr	Ala	Arg	Arg 70	Arg	Tyr	Thr	Arg	Arg 75	Lys	Asn	Arg	Ile	gys Cys
Tyr	Leu	Gln	Glu	Ile 85	Phe	Ser	Asn	Glu	Met 90	Ala	Lys	Val	Asp	Asp 95	Ser
Phe	Phe	His	Arg 100	Leu	Glu	Glu	Ser	Phe 105	Leu	Val	Glu	Glu	Asp 110	Lys	Lys
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Ser 145	Thr	Asp	Lys	Ala	Asp 150	Leu	Arg	Leu	Ile	Tyr 155	Leu	Ala	Leu	Ala	His 160
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Lys	Ala 210	Ile	Leu	Ser	Ala	Arg 215	Leu	Ser	Lys	Ser	Arg 220	Arg	Leu	Glu	Asn
Leu 225	Ile	Ala	Gln	Leu	Pro 230	Gly	Glu	ГЛа	Arg	Asn 235	Gly	Leu	Phe	Gly	Asn 240
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Leu	Phe 290	Leu	Ala	Ala	Lys	Asn 295	Leu	Ser	Asp	Ala	Ile 300	Leu	Leu	Ser	Asp
Ile 305	Leu	Arg	Val	Asn	Ser 310	Glu	Ile	Thr	Lys	Ala 315	Pro	Leu	Ser	Ala	Ser 320
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Ala	Leu	Val	Arg 340	Gln	Gln	Leu	Pro	Glu 345	Lys	Tyr	Lys	Glu	Ile 350	Phe	Phe
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Gln	Glu 370	Glu	Phe	Tyr	Lys	Phe 375	Ile	Lys	Pro	Ile	Leu 380	Glu	Lys	Met	Asp
Gly 385	Thr	Glu	Glu	Leu	Leu 390	Val	Lys	Leu	Asn	Arg 395	Glu	Asp	Leu	Leu	Arg 400
Lys	Gln	Arg	Thr	Phe 405	Asp	Asn	Gly	Ser	Ile 410	Pro	His	Gln	Ile	His 415	Leu
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Leu	Lys	Asp 435	Asn	Arg	Glu	Lys	Ile 440	Glu	Lys	Ile	Leu	Thr 445	Phe	Arg	Ile

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Tyr	Val 530	Thr	Glu	Gly	Met	Arg 535	Lys	Pro	Ala	Phe	Leu 540	Ser	Gly	Glu	Gln
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His	Lys	Pro 755	Glu	Asn	Ile	Val	Ile 760	Glu	Met	Ala	Arg	Glu 765	Asn	Gln	Thr
Thr	Gln 770	Lys	Gly	Gln	Lys	Asn 775	Ser	Arg	Glu	Arg	Met 780	ГЛа	Arg	Ile	Glu
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Ala	Gly	Phe 915	Ile	Lys	Arg		Leu 920	Val	Glu	Thr		Gln 925		Thr	. Lys
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Gly	Glu 1070		e Val	l Trp	Asp	Lys 107		Ly Ai	rg As	sp Ph		a 80	Thr	Val	Arg
Lys	Val 1085		ı Ser	Met	Pro	Gln 109		al As	sn I∶	le Va		ន 95	Lys	Thr	Glu
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Leu	Gln 1220	_	Gly	/ Asr	ı Glu	. Leu 122		La L∈	eu Pi	ro Se	_	ន 30	Tyr	Val	Asn
Phe	Leu 1235	_	: Leu	ı Ala	. Ser	His		/r G	lu Ly	ys L∈		s 45	Gly	Ser	Pro
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Tyr Leu Asp Glu Ile Ile Glu Gln Ile Ser Glu Phe Ser Lys Arg 1265 1270 1275
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<212> TYPE: DNA
<213 > ORGANISM: Artificial Sequence
<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic Oligonucleotide
<400> SEQUENCE: 241
gataacggac tagccttatt ttaacttgct atgcttttca gcatagctct aaaac
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<210> SEQ ID NO 242
<211> LENGTH: 81
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Artificial Sequence
<220> FEATURE:
<223 > OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic Oligonucleotide
<400> SEQUENCE: 242
cggactagcc ttattttaac ttgctatttc tagctctaaa acgcttgagg gagatgagga
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ctcctatagt gagtcgtatt a
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<210> SEQ ID NO 243
<211> LENGTH: 81
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Artificial Sequence
<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic Oligonucleotide
<400> SEQUENCE: 243
cggactagcc ttattttaac ttgctatttc tagctctaaa acgcggggcc tgcttgaggg
agcctatagt gagtcgtatt a
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<210> SEQ ID NO 244
<211> LENGTH: 81
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213 > ORGANISM: Artificial Sequence
<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic Oligonucleotide
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cggactagcc ttattttaac ttgctatttc tagctctaaa acactcagtg aagctcttca
                                                                       60
                                                                       81
cacctatagt gagtcgtatt a
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<212> TYPE: DNA
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<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic Oligonucleotide
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cggactagcc ttattttaac ttgctatttc tagctctaaa actgtggaaa cactacatct
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gccctatagt gagtcgtatt a
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<213> ORGANISM: Artificial Sequence
<220> FEATURE:
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taatacgact cactatagg
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<213 > ORGANISM: Artificial Sequence
<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic Oligonucleotide
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: misc_feature
<222> LOCATION: (7)..(10)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: n is a, c, g, or t
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<221> NAME/KEY: misc_feature
<222> LOCATION: (13)..(13)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: n is a, c, g, or t
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: misc_feature
<222> LOCATION: (34)..(37)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: n is a, c, g, or t
<400> SEQUENCE: 247
aacacannnn congottgag ggagatgagg actnnnnacc tgoogagaac aca
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<223> OTHER INFORMATION: n is a, c, g, or t
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<223 > OTHER INFORMATION: n is a, c, g, or t
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: misc_feature
<222> LOCATION: (34)..(37)
<223 > OTHER INFORMATION: n is a, c, g, or t
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tcttctnnnn cengegggge etgettgagg gagnnnnace tgeegagtet tet
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<223> OTHER INFORMATION: n is a, c, g, or t
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<220> FEATURE:
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<223> OTHER INFORMATION: n is a, c, g, or t
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agagaannnn ccnactcagt gaagctcttc acannnnacc tgccgagaga gaa
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<223> OTHER INFORMATION: n is a, c, g, or t
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<223 > OTHER INFORMATION: n is a, c, g, or t
<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: misc_feature
<222> LOCATION: (34)..(37)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: n is a, c, g, or t
<400> SEQUENCE: 250
ttgtgtnnnn ccntgtggaa acactacatc tgcnnnnacc tgccgagttg tgt
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<210> SEQ ID NO 251
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<212> TYPE: DNA
<213 > ORGANISM: Artificial Sequence
<220> FEATURE:
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ctagcaç	ptcc tcatctccct caagcagge	29	
<211> I <212> T <213> C <220> F	SEQ ID NO 252 LENGTH: 29 LYPE: DNA LYPENISM: Artificial Sequence LEATURE: LYPENISM OF THE SYNTHER OF THE S		
<400> \$	EQUENCE: 252		
agctgcc	tgc ttgagggaga tgaggactg	29	
<211> I <212> T <213> C <220> F <223> C	SEQ ID NO 253 JENGTH: 29 TYPE: DNA DRGANISM: Artificial Sequence TEATURE: DTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic Oligonucleotide SEQUENCE: 253		
ctagtct	.ccc tcaagcaggc cccgctggt	29	
<211> I <212> T <213> C <220> F <223> C	EQ ID NO 254 LENGTH: 29 TYPE: DNA REGANISM: Artificial Sequence PEATURE: DTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic Oligonucleotide		
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<211> I <212> T <213> C <220> F	SEQ ID NO 255 JENGTH: 29 TYPE: DNA JEGANISM: Artificial Sequence JEATURE: DTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic Oligonucleotide		
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ctagcto	rtga agagetteae tgagtagga	29	
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<211> I <212> T <213> C <220> F	SEQ ID NO 257 JENGTH: 29 TYPE: DNA JEGANISM: Artificial Sequence JEATURE: THER INFORMATION: Synthetic Oligonucleotide		
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ctagtgo	aga tgtagtgttt ccacagggt	29	

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<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic Oligonucleotide
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agctaccctg tggaaacact acatctgca
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<212> TYPE: DNA
<213 > ORGANISM: Artificial Sequence
<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic Oligonucleotide
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gcgacacgga aatgttgaat actcat
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<211> LENGTH: 25
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Artificial Sequence
<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic Oligonucleotide
<400> SEOUENCE: 260
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ggagtcaggc aactatggat gaacg
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<211> LENGTH: 60
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Artificial Sequence
<220> FEATURE:
<223 > OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic Oligonucleotide
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actgtgaaga gcttcactga gtaggattaa gatattgcag atgtagtgtt tccacagggt
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<212> TYPE: DNA
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<220> FEATURE:
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<212> TYPE: DNA
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actgtgaaga gcttcactga gtaggattaa gatattgaag atgtagtgtt tccactgggt
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<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Artificial Sequence
<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic Oligonucleotide
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<211> LENGTH: 60
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213 > ORGANISM: Artificial Sequence
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actgtgaaga gcttcactga gtaggattaa gatattgcag atgtagtgtt accagagggt
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<212> TYPE: DNA
<213 > ORGANISM: Artificial Sequence
<220> FEATURE:
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<212> TYPE: DNA
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<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Artificial Sequence
<220> FEATURE:
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teceteaage aggeeeeget ggtgeaetga agageeacee tgtggaaace etceatetge
<210> SEQ ID NO 271
<211> LENGTH: 60
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<213> ORGANISM: Artificial Sequence
<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic Oligonucleotide
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tccctcaagc aggccccgct ggtgcactga agagccaccc tctggtaaca ctacatctgc
<210> SEQ ID NO 272
<211> LENGTH: 60
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213 > ORGANISM: Artificial Sequence
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teceteaage aggeeeget ggtgeactga agageeacce agtggaaaca etacateece
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<211> LENGTH: 62
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Artificial Sequence
<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic Oligonucleotide
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aatgatacgg cgaccaccga gatctacact ctttccctac acgacgctct tccgatctaa
                                                                       60
                                                                       62
<210> SEQ ID NO 274
<211> LENGTH: 49
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Artificial Sequence
<220> FEATURE:
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic Oligonucleotide
<400> SEQUENCE: 274
tgttagatcg gaagagcgtc gtgtagggaa agagtgtaga tctcggtgg
                                                                       49
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<212> TYPE: DNA
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aatgatacgg cgaccaccga gatctacact ctttccctac acgacgctct tccgatcttt
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са
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<212> TYPE: DNA
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gacggcatac gagat	15
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ttgtatctcg tatgccgtct tctgcttg	28

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caagcagaag acggcatacg agattgtgtt ctcggcaggt
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aatgatacgg cgaccaccga
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<220> FEATURE:
<221> NAME/KEY: misc_feature
<222> LOCATION: (59)..(62)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: n is a, c, g, or t
<400> SEQUENCE: 289
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nnacctacct gccgagaaca ca
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nnacctacct gccgagtctt ct
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aatgatacgg cgaccaccga gatctacact ctttccctac acgacgctct tccgatctnn
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nnacctacct gccgagagag aa
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<222> LOCATION: (59)..(62)
<223> OTHER INFORMATION: n is a, c, g, or t
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nnacctacct gccgagttgt gt
                                                                       82
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<212> TYPE: DNA
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caagcagaag acggcatacg agat
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acactettte cetacaegae getetteega teteaagtet ageaageagg eea
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acactettte cetacacgae getetteega tetectacee ceacaacttt get	53
acactotte cotacacgue getotteega tectotace coacaacte get	
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acactettte ectacaegae getetteega teteggeeca agaceteatt cae	53
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acactettte ectacacgae getetteega tetagetgag teatgagttg tetee	55
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acactettte cetacaegae getetteega tetetgeeag etteteacae eat	53
010 JD NO 200	
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<212> TYPE: DNA
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acactettte cetacaegae getetteega tetecagaga caaaggtggg gag
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acactettte cetacaegae getetteega teteaaagag gggtateggg age
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acactettte ectacacgae getetteega tetaaatgga agaaccaagt agatgaa
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<220> FEATURE:

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<212> TYPE: DNA
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<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Synthetic Oligonucleotide
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What is claimed is:

1. A method for identifying a target site of an RNA-programmable nuclease, the method comprising

- (a) providing an RNA-programmable nuclease that cuts a double-stranded nucleic acid target site, wherein cutting of the target site results in cut nucleic acid strands comprising a 5' phosphate moiety;
- (b) contacting the RNA-programmable nuclease of (a) with a library of candidate nucleic acid molecules, wherein each nucleic acid molecule comprises a concatemer of a sequence comprising a candidate nuclease target site and a constant insert sequence of at least 10 and not more than 70 nucleotides, under conditions suitable for the RNA-programmable nuclease to cut a candidate nucleic acid molecule comprising a target site of 55 the RNA-programmable nuclease; and
- (c) identifying nuclease target sites cut by the RNA-programmable nuclease in (b) by direct sequencing of an intact nuclease target site on the nucleic acid strand that was cut by the RNA-programmable nuclease in step (b), 60 wherein the method does not include computational reconstruction of nuclease target sites from cut half-sites.
- 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the method identifies off-target sites of the RNA-programmable nuclease.
- 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the RNA-programmable nuclease creates blunt ends.

- 4. The method of claim 1, wherein of step (c) comprises ligating a first nucleic acid adapter to the 5' end of a nucleic acid strand that was cut by the RNA-programmable nuclease in step (b) via 5'-phosphate-dependent ligation.
- 5. The method of claim 4, wherein the nucleic acid adapter is provided in double-stranded form.
- 6. The method of claim 5, wherein the 5'-phosphate-dependent ligation is a blunt end ligation.
- 7. The method of claim 4, wherein step (c) comprises amplifying a fragment of the concatemer cut by the RNA-programmable nuclease that comprises an uncut target site via a PCR reaction using a PCR primer that hybridizes with the adapter and a PCR primer that hybridizes with the constant insert sequence.
- **8**. The method of claim **7**, wherein the method further comprises enriching the amplified nucleic acid molecules for molecules comprising a single uncut target sequence.
- **9**. The method of claim **1**, wherein step (c) comprises sequencing the nucleic acid strand that was cut by the nuclease in step (b), or a copy thereof obtained via PCR, using a high-throughput sequencing method.
- 10. The method of claim 1, wherein the library of candidate nucleic acid molecules comprises at least 10^{10} , different candidate nuclease cleavage sites.
- 11. The method of claim 1, wherein the nuclease is a therapeutic nuclease which cuts a specific nuclease target site in a gene associated with a disease.

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- 12. The method of claim 11, further comprising determining a maximum concentration of the therapeutic nuclease at which the therapeutic nuclease cuts the specific nuclease target site, and does not an additional nuclease target site.
- 13. The method of claim 12, further comprising administering the therapeutic nuclease to a subject in an amount effective to generate a final concentration equal or lower than the maximum concentration.
- 14. The method of claim 1, wherein the nuclease is an RNA-programmable nuclease that forms a complex with an RNA molecule, and wherein the nuclease:RNA complex specifically binds a nucleic acid sequence complementary to the sequence of the RNA molecule.
- 15. The method of claim 14, wherein the RNA molecule is a single-guide RNA (sgRNA).
- **16**. The method of claim **14**, wherein the RNA molecule comprises 15-25 nucleotides that are complementary to the target sequence.
- 17. The method of claim 1, wherein the nuclease is a Cas9 nuclease.
- **18**. The method of claim **14**, wherein the nuclease target site comprises a [sgRNA-complementary sequence]-

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[protospacer adjacent motif (PAM)] structure, and the nuclease cuts the target site within the sgRNA-complementary sequence.

- **19**. The method of claim **18**, wherein the sgRNA-complementary sequence comprises 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, or 30 nucleotides.
- 20. The method of claim 1, wherein step (c) comprises identifying nuclease target sites cut by the RNA-programmable nuclease by direct, single-end sequencing of an intact nuclease target site on the nucleic acid strand that was cut by the RNA-programmable nuclease.
- 21. The method of claim 1, wherein both a cut half-site and an adjacent uncut nuclease target site of the same library member are contained within a 100 nucleotide sequence.
- 22. The method of claim 1, wherein the constant insert sequence comprises not more than 60 nucleotides.
- 23. The method of claim 1, wherein the constant insert sequence comprises not more than 55 nucleotides.
- 24. The method of claim 1, wherein the library of candidate nucleic acid molecules comprises at least 10¹² different candidate nuclease cleavage sites.

* * * * *

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE **CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION**

PATENT NO. : 9,163,284 B2 Page 1 of 1

APPLICATION NO. : 14/320370 DATED : October 20, 2015

INVENTOR(S) : Liu et al.

It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

In the Claims

Claim 4, column 238, line 41:

"wherein of step (c)" should be changed to --wherein step (c)--.

Claim 10, column 238, line 63:

"at least 10¹⁰, different" should be changed to --at least 10¹⁰ different--.

Signed and Sealed this Fourteenth Day of June, 2016

Michelle K. Lee

Michelle K. Lee

Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office